FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOP COVERS PROCEEDINGS OF PNC SESSION IN DAMASCUS

JN191757 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] At 1000 today, the eighth meeting of the 14th Palestine National Council [PNC] session was opened in the presence of a large delegation of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Patriotic Front. The most important thing at this meeting was the announcement by brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the revolution forces, about the Zionist aggression against the joint forces positions in the regions of Al-'Ayshiyah, Arnun, [name indistinct], Abu al-Aswad and Jisr al-Qasimiyah. He also talked about how the joint forces bravely repulsed the aggression. This forced the Zionist forces to withdraw after having suffered human and material losses.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also announced the martyrdom of Capt Muhammad Mustafa and hailed the joint forces fighters for their splendid steadfastness.

Some brother members of the Palestine National Council delivered their speeches. Comrade George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, then spoke at the meeting. He was followed by [words indistinct] of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

PFLP's Habash Speaks

JN192014 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1800 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] At 1000 today, the eighth meeting of the 14th Palestine National Council [PNC] session was opened in the presence of a large delegation of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Patriotic Front.

Comrade George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], spoke at the meeting. He said that the task of the PNC is to determine the political line of the revolution on the Arab and international levels. He said: We of the PFLP declare our commitment to dialog and struggle through the framework of the PLO. Dr Habash expressed the hope that the Palestinian revolution would follow an integrated political line and said that the objectives of the Palestinian masses are more important than any organizational differences. Dr Habash added that Arab reaction, represented by As-Sadat, has officially announced its readiness to capitulate to Zionism, open the doors to the Zionist cancer, and ally itself with Zionism against the Arab masses and the Palestinian revolution. Dr Habash added that during the coming years the area will witness a gradual retreat of reaction to a negative position.

He said that As-Sadat represents the position of various reactionary forces and rulers and that the Palestinian revolution has no choice but to struggle against this reaction.

Speaking about the dialog with Jordan, Dr Habash did not object to it on the condition that the Jordanian regime does not use it as a cover to help it in its campaign of political and social persecution of the Palestinian and Jordanian masses. Dr Habash also called for determining the Palestinian revolution's position toward Arab reaction and also toward progressive forces.

On the international level, Dr Habash called for the adoption of firm positions against U.S. imperialism and its interests in the area.

'Arafat on Israeli Attack

JN200829 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Yesterday brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] interrupted his attendance at the Palestine National Council [PNC] meetings in Damascus and immediately left for the battlefield. Brother Abu 'Ammar returned to Damascus later in the day and resumed his participation in the PNC meetings at 2215. Brother Abu 'Ammar joined the PNC meeting last night and briefed its members on the Zionist attack which was aimed at the positions of the joint forces. Brother Abu 'Ammar presented a report on the battle and how our great fighters foiled and repulsed the aggression. He explained that yesterday the Zionist enemy used its air force, which showed on Syrian radar. However, the enemy claimed it did not use any of its fighters.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added that it was not a coincidence that the Lebanese Ministry of Defense yesterday charged Lebanese leader Ahmad al-Khatib of collaborating with the Zionist enemy. This accusation, brother Abu 'Ammar added, came just a few hours before the Zionist aggression and at a time when the Arab Army of Lebanon lost eight martyrs during the aggression. Brother Abu 'Ammar asserted that this charge is very suspicious and serves the Zionist enemy. Brother Abu 'Ammar challenged the enemy command for proof that they captured any of the joint forces' fighters. He said that the enemy failed to infiltrate or reach any of the joint forces' positions. Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that the Zionist Golan brigade carried out the attack against the joint forces. Helicopters were also used, he added, in addition to about 800 paratroops. Abu 'Ammar said: I gave orders to shell the city of Nahariya in northern Palestine. The shelling took place last evening with heavy rockets; meanwhile, enemy gunboats were shelling Al-Burj, Ash-Shamali and Ar-Rashidiyah camps. Several civilians were wounded and two Palestinians were killed. He said that the joint forces last night also shelled Qiryat Shemona for about 40 minutes. Brother Abu 'Ammar confirmed that the aggression against the joint forces did not surprise us. He said: Let Weizman and his generals rest assured that we will not stop fighting until we achieve victory. They admitted this evening that four settlers were killed and two others wounded in addition to huge material damage and destruction. Weizman announced that his forces will continue their operations against the terrorists. Etan, on the other hand, said that he has the right to strike at the terrorists anywhere.

Abu 'Ammar continued: The enemy attack on the joint forces failed despite the use of the navy, air force and army. Until this minute, the UNIFIL mandate in the south has not been extended because of French collusion. The French representative at the United Nations has rejected the extension for another 6 months so UNIFIL will not be held responsible for the recent Zionist operation in southern Lebanon. Brother Abu 'Ammar went on: The joint forces positions behind the 37th parallel were subjected to the Zionist aggression. This is considered as a (?move) against Syria and Iraq within the context of the National Charter for Joint Action between the two fraternal countries. This aggression is further considered as an aggression against the Syrian forces. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar concluded: The Palestinian revolution will continue fighting until victory.

PLO Executive Committee Meets

JN201628 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in Damascus last night under brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. Our correspondent has learned that the meeting discussed a number of issues on the agenda of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and the recent Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon.

The Executive Committee considers itself to be in permanent session during the meetings of the PNC.

PNC APPROVES NATIONAL UNITY WORKING PAPER, JORDAN DIALOG

JN192113 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The Palestine National Council [PNC] resumed its work today and held a closed session confined to the council members. The session dealt with the essential points on the agenda, particularly those concerning the political field in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

During the session, all groups of the revolution and the Palestinian national forces approved and proclaimed the dialog with Jordan and the draft working paper for Palestinian national unity. On the Palestinian level, the draft working paper includes adherence to the national inalienable rights of our people in their homeland of Palestine; their right to return to this homeland and determine their destiny on their land without any outside interference; their right to establish their independent state on their national soil without any restrictions or conditions; defense of and adherence to the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; adherence to the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences in Algiers, Rabat and Baghdad; and adherence to the UN resolutions, particularly those passed since 1974, including Resolutions 3236 and 3237, which affirm the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the recognition of the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

The working paper affirms the firm resolve to continue and escalate armed struggle and all forms of political and popular struggle inside the occupied land, since this constitutes the main field of conflict with the Zionist enemy; affirms that the Palestine issue is the crux and essence of the Arab-Zionist conflict; rejects all resolutions, agreements and settlements which do not recognize, or which detract from, the inalienable rights of our people in their homeland of Palestine; rejects and resists the autonomy plan in the occupied homeland, which perpetuates the Zionist colonialism; and affirms the unity of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland and the unity of their representation.

The working paper further affirms that the confrontation of the Camp David agreements and the addendas and their results is the responsibility of the entire Arab masses and their national and progressive forces in view of the fact that these agreements constitute crucial dangers to the issue of Arab struggle.

The working paper also affirms that the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and its central ally of Syria and the PLO, is the impregnable fortress to repulse the imperialist-Zionist settlement conspiracy.

The working paper proclaims the PLO's firm adherence to the gains made internationally by the Palestinian struggle, such as broad international recognition of the PLO and the Palestinian people's inalienable right in their homeland of Palestine, and their right to return to this homeland, to determine their destiny, and establish their national independent state on the national soil of this homeland.

The program [burnamij] also included several points in the organizational field. A large number of PNC members spoke in support of this proposed program. They also pointed out the importance of the Charter for Joint National Action between fraternal Iraq and Syria and the Baghdad summit, and their effects in the field of the Palestinian struggle at the current stage as well as their influence in creating a suitable atmosphere to entrench Palestinian national unity.

VOP REPORTS FURTHER ON PNC ACTIVITIES IN DAMASCUS

JN211907 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The Palestine National Council [PNC] committees held closed meetings yesterday in which they discussed a number of issues on the agenda, in order to submit their final recommendations to the council for approval. The military affairs and the affairs of the occupied homeland committees held a closed meeting, confined to the two committees' members, due to the nature of the issues discussed and the decisions and recommendations reached.

In its morning session yesterday, the Political Committee discussed the dialog with Jordan and the issue of drafting the plan for this dialog, which was further discussed and resolved during the evening session. The Political Committee also discussed the issue of UNRWA and the attempts of its commissioner general to halt the agency's monthly services. The political motives behind these attempts and their serious repercussions for the Palestinian people and cause were also discussed.

A number of PNC members reviewed the arbitrary UNRWA measures that attempt to reduce or terminate the food supplies and health and educational services for the refugees. They also discussed the role of U.S. imperialism and the European states in this regard, and reached a number of decisions on this issue.

The Political Committee dealt with the situation in the south as well, hailing the Palestinian-Lebanese cohesion and the great support given by the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in the interests of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. The committee unanimously approved the suggestions and recommendations of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement delegation and the Nationalist Front delegation, both of which took part in the Political Committee meeting related to the situation in south Lebanon.

The National Unity Committee referred the important issues to the Executive Committee and the Palestinian leadership with the following recommendations:

1. That the council affirm the importance of national unity as mentioned in the first article of the organizational section of the political and organizational program. There is a need to represent all the revolutionary groups and forces in the PLO departments, particularly the Palestine National Council, the Central Council and the Executive Committee. Clarification of the word "all"as used in the above sentence will be left to the Executive Committee and the leadership of the Palestinian revolution, which can specify the groups necessary to achieve national unity.

2. That the council condemn all forms of internal dissension and conflict [words indistinct] and punish all those who cause the fighting and refer them to the parties responsible for their punishment.

3. That the council call on all Palestinian revolutionary groups to adhere to a policy of mobilizing the masses, with the aim of strengthening national unity in accordance with the PLO political and organizational program and to demonstrate commitment to the democratic dialog. All accusations and slanders outside this dialog will be condemned.

4. That the council demand that the democratic principles drawn up in the 14th session's political and organizational program be applied to all the information, military, financial and political departments of the PLO, including the PLO offices. All must take part in the Palestinian mass organization on the basis of proportional representation and in accordance with the decisions of the 10th PNC session of 1972.

The Financial Committee discussed the issue of unifying the fund collection and expenditure systems throughout the Palestinian revolutionary groups and departments.

The PNC will honor Bishop Hilarion Capucci, honorary member of the council, today. The bishop will address the evening session.

In view of the Political Committee's recommendations dealing with the situation in southern Lebanon, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's representatives will hold a press conference at 1000 tomorrow in Damascus, in which they will present the current situation in southern Lebanon, its threats to Lebanon and its repercussions on the Arab situation.

PNC Ends 22 Jan

JN220943 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 22 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The Palestine National Council [PNC] is due to conclude its 14th session and work this evening. The council is also expected to issue its political statement, to adopt resolutions and recommendations, and to elect the PLO Executive Committee.

The PNC devoted yesterday's session to greeting militant Bishop Hilarion Capucci. Bishop Capucci, who was accompanied by brother Commander Yasir 'Arafat, was received with a storm of applause in the hall. The bishop then embraced the secretaries general of the Palestinian factions, the PLO Executive Committee members, and the PNC chairman. He also embraced Palestinian strugglers who had been deported from the occupied territories, including sister Fatimah Barmawi.

On behalf of the PNC, chairman Khalid al-Fahum welcomed the bishop and described him as a symbol of sacrifice and steadfastness.

Bishop Capucci then gave an emotional, improvised speech. He greeted brother Commander Yasir 'Arafat, the PNC chairman, and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. He described this day [words indistinct] and pledged to almighty God that he will continue to be loyal to the cause and people for whom he has dedicated himself. He said what he had done and the sufferings he had experienced in the Zionist prisons were his duty. He added that patriots should not expect thanks for work which is basically their duty.

In his 55-minute speech, Bishop Capucci said that he was happy to be among his Palestinian brothers. He strongly condemned the Zionist plot. He stressed the need for unity of all Arabs irrespective of their status and religion. He urged all the sons of the Palestinian people to rally around the PLO.

Bishop Capucci expressed his happiness over the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement. Speaking about the Lebanese tragedy, he said: I can tell those who accused me of having worked against Lebanon that I love Lebanon because I love Palestine, and I love Palestine because I love Lebanon. He expressed the hope that unity will be restored to Lebanon.

In'am Ra'd, deputy leader of the Political and Central Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, then addressed the session. He welcomed militant Bishop Capucci and lauded his heroic role as well as the cohesion between the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

After the session was adjourned, the PNC held a closed session to discuss recommendations and final resolutions.

PALESTINIAN LEADERS MAKE STATEMENTS TO SYRIAN DAILY

JN191600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--Zuhayr Muhsin, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Military Department, has asserted that the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement provides the Palestinian people and their armed revolution with a strategic depth that is capable of supporting and protecting the revolution as well as of supplying it with the potential for its continuation and development.

In a statement to the newspaper TISHRIN, Zuhayr Muhsin said: this rapprochement has introduced a practical and material alternative to As-Sadat's capitulatory and liquidationist course. Regarding Palestinian national unity, he expressed hope in this respect and said: We feel the deep desire of all the resistance factions to achieve this important accomplishment.

Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, made a statement in which he explained that the value of convening the 14th session of the Palestine National Council in Damascus is connected with the political stand represented by Damascus through the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, through the Joint National Action Charter between Syria and Iraq, and through Syria's rejection of the Camp David accords.

Dr Habash stressed that political developments impose a serious threat to the topic of Palestinian national unity. Therefore, he said, there should be serious work to establish the highest possible degree of unity.

Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, made a statement to the newspaper TISHRIN in which he said: the Joint National Action Charter between Syria and Iraq represents a foundation for the pan-Arab issue of repulsing the capitulationist schemes. Our people in the occupied territories consider this rapprochement to be a guarantee and support for steadfastness and the beginning of a counteroffensive against the hostile forces.

Ahmad Jibril also stressed that Palestinian national unity has been one of the objectives of the revolution since its first years. He explained that Arab influences this year have begun to have a positive effect on the revolution and have helped us to work for the completion of the national unity program. Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, official spokesman of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, also made a statement in which he praised the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement and the joint National Action Charter. He said: We call for developing this rapprochement so it will become a pillar in the confrontation with the enemy and a factor in restoring a balance to the region so as to foil the U.S. settlement. 'Abd Rabbuh added: We hope that the current efforts will lead to developing this rapprochement toward more advanced steps. We believe that what has been achieved so far has contributed politically to emphasizing that As-Sadat has no right to control national and pan-Arab issues.

PFLP'S HABASH URGES SUPPORT FOR IRAQI-SYRIAN CHARTER

JN201045 Baghdad INA Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 20 January--Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has asserted that the Charter of Joint National Action between Iraq and Syria has come as a reply to the Camp David agreements and "provides better conditions for the Palestinian revolution to adopt independent decisions."

In a statement published in the Lebanese paper AN-NAHAR today, Habash said: The charter pledges struggle against the imperialist-Zionist onslaught and opposition to the capitulation settlement plans in the Arab region. It is a unity charter, and we are supporting it enthusiastically.

Habash added: Therefore, the Palestinian revolution must consider its effective and enthusiastic participation in achieving this unity one of the main tasks of the current phase.

PNC OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON PLO-JORDANIAN TIES

JN200826 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Jan 79 p 1 JN

[Article by Lee S. Tesdell: "PLO Restates Wish for Close Ties"]

[Text] Damascus, Jan. 19 (J.T.)--The Palestine Liberation Organisation is "keen to have relations with Jordan," Muhammad Subayh, secretary general of the Palestine National Council [PNC] told the JORDAN TIMES here today. "We unanimously accepted in principle to have these relations," he said. "Now it depends on how Jordan will react." On the subject of PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat's forthcoming visit to meet with His Majesty King Husayn, Subayh said, "I think he will be there soon." While the 14th annual session of the 301-member PNC was meeting at a trade union headquarters across the street from the Meridien Hotel in Damascus, Israeli troops attacked a Palestinian position in southern Lebanon. Asked whether the PLO would retaliate for the attack, spokesman Mahmud Labadi said: "It is not a question of retaliation. We are a resistance movement fighting to recover our homeland." "This means that such acts of Zionist aggression will not deter us from carrying on our struggle inside the occupied territories. The armed struggle will go on," he continued, at his daily news conference. Subayh told the JORDAN TIMES that both the Baghdad conference meetings between His Majesty King Husayn and chairman 'Arafat and the earlier meeting of the two men in northern Jordan had helped to strengthen ties between the Jordanians and the PLO. The Palestinians are hopeful as well that the current Syrian-Iraqi accords and unification moves will strengthen the Arab position against Israel. Conference sources, quoted by REUTERS, said the debate within the PNC shows the unity of Palestinian groups around opposition to Camp David peace plans. The council, they reported, had approved a draft programme rejecting the notion of limited self rule on the West Bank and Gaza. Stepped up military actions against Israel were also called for, they said. In another unifying move, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has apparently decided to rejoin the 15 member Executive Committee of the PLO.

Mr Labadi stressed that the PNC is a democratic organisation in which each member may express his or her views. This was confirmed to the JORDAN TIMES by Mr Subayh, who said that 160 members of the 301 will have made statements by the end of the approximately week-long conference.

SHAH OF IRAN LEAVES ASWAN FOR MOROCCO 22 JAN

NC221016 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Jan 79 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat this morning saw off Shahanshah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi upon his departure from Aswan on his way to Morocco at the conclusion of his 6-day visit to Aswan.

The shahanshah and his wife arrived at the airport accompanied by President Anwar as-Sadat and his wife. After the national anthems of Iran and Egypt were played, the shahanshah greeted the senior officials and personalities who were at the airport to see him off. Children presented bouquets of flowers to the shahanshah and his wife and to President as-Sadat and his wife. The shahanshah and President as-Sadat then reviewed an honor guard and a gun salute was fired in honor of the guest.

After the president and shahanshah embraced each other, the guest boarded the special Iranian plane, which left the airport at 1110 today.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1043 GMT on 22 January notes that "President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat left Aswan for Cairo after seeing off the Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who left Aswan airport for Morocco today."]

AS-SADAT, SHAH INTERVIEWS WITH ITALIAN MAGAZINE DENIED

JN201442 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Aswan, 20 January--Sa'd Zaghlul Nassar, press secretary to President Anwar as-Sadat, has denied that President as-Sadat has granted an interview to (Pinez Dragazzi), correspondent of the Italian GENTE magazine.

An Iranian spokesman also denied that Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi had granted an interview to the same newspaper.

MENA has learned that last night the Italian correspondent sent to his paper a fabricated text of an interview with President as-Sadat and the shah of Iran, whom he had not met with.

PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT MAR'I COMMENTS ON SHAH'S ROLE

NC200756 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0623 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 January--Presidential assistant Engineer Sayyid Mar'i has said that Egypt stands by the people of Iran and does not reject out of hand whatever the Iranian people see in their future, because the Iranian people alone have absolute freedom to choose their ruler.

In a statement published in AL-AHRAM today, Engineer Sayyid Mar'i noted that Cairo had reservations on a number of positions by the shah, but this does not at all mean that Egypt does not appreciate this man and his role in the Middle East crisis.

Mar'i said that the reception and hospitality with which the people of Aswan met the shahanshah actually reflect the nobility of the Egyptian people and their humanitarian attitude toward the shah in gratitude for his role in supporting Arab policy in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

LEFTIST PARTY SAYS SHAH UNDESIRABLE GUEST

NC191740 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1725 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 January--The Leftist Party here today declared that the shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who is now visiting Egypt, is an undesirable guest in Egypt. In a leaflet issued today, the party says that the shah is nothing other than a tool in the hands of the CIA.

The adviser of Egyptian head of state Anwar as-Sadat today told reporters in Aswan that the fact that As-Sadat has received the shah does not constitute interference in Iran's internal policy.

Last night the shah had dinner with President as-Sadat and former U.S. President Gerald Ford. Ford left Aswan for Damascus today to have lunch with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

AK-AKHBAR DENOUNCES MOSCOW CRITICISM OF RECEPTION FOR SHAH

LD220927 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 18 Jan 79 p 6 LD

[Editorial: "These Are the Morals of the Egyptian People"]

[Excerpt] Moscow Radio has strongly attacked Egypt and the Egyptians because they warmly welcomed the shah of Iran on arrival in Aswan the day before yesterday. The Marxist radio tried to explain the reason for President Anwar as-Sadat's welcome for the shah with falsehoods and lies, as is customary for Moscow Radio and those who tell the Soviet propaganda trumpets what to say.

The Egyptian people's welcome for the shah is a matter of morals and behavior before anything else. This has always been the Egyptian people's morals and nature. Since ancient times Egypt has been known for its hospitality and manly behavior: Every visitor would feel at home and as if he were among his own people and kinsfolk. Moreover, the shah adopted great attitudes toward us for which we must show our due appreciation and gratitude. We will never be ungrateful because it is contrary to our morals.

We can never forget the shah's stand with us and his help and support in times of difficulty when we were engaged in the glorious October War and after we achieved victory in it. He gave us generous aid to help us overcome our economic crisis. He came to visit us and lived among us for several days. Through his aid for our projects and his sympathy with us, he underlined the fact that we are one Islamic nation. All this happened at a time when the Soviets withheld arms from us while we were fighting and demanded the repayment of their debts with compound interest. They then turned to hatching plots against us.

Therefore, our attitude in receiving and warmly welcoming the shah is out of loyalty and gratitude, for loyalty is the quality of men and the symbol of high morals.

Hence, if Moscow Radio has indulged in this hallucinatory campaign to denounce the Egyptian people for receiving the shah and uttered insults and invective against the shah and Egypt, it has only done what is customary of Soviet behavior and of Soviet political attitudes toward peoples and international issues. It is customary of them to exploit their lackeys and agents in achieving their ends. All they care for is their own interests and the achievements of their ambitions and objectives of domination, exploitation and malignant colonialism.

They have no scruples in using their agents to serve their ends as long as this enables them to realize their ambition of dominating peoples. They even crush their agents if this serves their interests. Probably their attitude toward the massacring of ommunists in Iraq is the best evidence of this.

The Egyptian people are honorable people who uphold morals and values. These morals and values will always remain the symbol of their strength, dignity and moral behavior.

AS-SADAT LEAVES ASWAN FOR ASSEMBLIES' SESSION IN KHARTOUM

NC200928 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0859 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Aswan, 20 January--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat left Aswan airport this morning for Khartoum to attend the opening joint session of the Egyptian and Sudanese People's Assemblies, which begins there this morning.

The president was accompanied by Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, presidential assistant Engineer Sayyid Mar'i, Presidential Adviser Gen 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary General of the National Democratic Party Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, Presidential Office Chief Hasan Kamil, Minister of State for Party Liaison Muhammad al-'Uqayli, Upper Egypt Liaison Secretary Yusuf Makkawi, and Director of the President's Office for Party Affairs Engineer Ahmad 'Abd al-Akhir.

The president arrived at the airport at 1010 by helicopter from the Oberoi Hotel, where he was staying in Aswan. He then boarded the plane for Khartoum. The president was seen off at the airport by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, Aswan Governor Engineer Ahmad Taha Husyan, Aswan Security Director Maj Gen Mustafa al-Hamshari, and the political and popular leaders of the governorate.

Mubarak Remarks at Aswan Airport

NC201024 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Aswan, 20 January--U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East Alfred Atherton is due in Cairo on Sunday from Israel. This was announced by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in a press statement to the reporters at Aswan airport, where he saw President as-Sadat off [for Khartoum].

The vice president said that Egypt has so far received nothing official regarding Atherton's talks in Israel. He added that as soon as he arrives, the U.S. envoy will meet with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and acting Foreign Minister Dr Butrus Ghali, and that he may meet with President As-Sadat if he is carrying something new regarding the negotiations.

In his statement to the international correspondents at Aswan airport this morning, Husni Mubarak stressed that peace will come to the area but that it is a matter of time. He also emphasized that the Egyptian position has not changed and that the disagreement is over the question of the timetable and Articles IV and VI of the draft peace treaty.

Vice President Mubarak affirmed that the discussions held between President As-Sadat and the shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, were comprehensive and covered all issues related to the region.

Husni Mubarak stressed that the situation in Iran threatens the whole region.

To a question on Egypt's position regarding the negotiations and the timetable for Israeli withdrawal, Husni Mubarak replied that Egypt's position has not changed and the Americans understand this position. He emphasized that Egypt will not budge even 1 millimeter as far as its demands are concerned. Asked if he expects a summit conference to be held if no solution is reached, Mubarak said: The possibility exists if no progress is made at the present level. He pointed out that a summit conference must be preceded by preparations so that it will not fail, especially because the failure of the conference would be unacceptable to both the U.S. President and Egypt. He added that the present circumstances could be preparatory to convening a summit conference. He added: We are waiting to see the results of Atherton's current contacts and the U.S. endeavors, and on the basis of these results a decision will be made on whether a summit conference should be held or not.

Asked whether Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri is making attempts to call for convening an Arab summit conference, Mubarak answered: I do not know anything about this.

Regarding Egyptian-Arab relations, Mubarak affirmed that Egypt's attitude toward the rejectionist states is clear. He also asserted that there are no problems between Egypt and the rest of the Arab states. He said: We are in contact with these states. He pointed out that contacts with the gulf states are constant as usual.

Asked about Egypt's stand on the aggression against south Lebanon, Mubarak said: Egypt is against this aggression. He emphasized that Egypt absolutely disapproves of any Israeli aggression against any Arab state. He also affirmed that peace is coming despite Israel's intransigence.

Asked about Egypt's opinion on the main points that should be resolved--the points of linkage and articles IV and VI--Husni Mubarak said: Regarding linkage, this is inevitable. It must not happen that we take Sinai or they carry out the first phase of withdrawal and then the operation falters for 20 years before autonomy is established in the West Bank and Gaza. He said that such a thing cannot be accepted by anyone because it would formally be a separate solution all the way. He pointed out that there must be a timetable for autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza. He said that when Israel was asked when autonomy would be established in the West Bank and Gaza, it said that this was not possible. Husni Mubarak said: Regarding Gaza, for example, the Israelis said that Egypt would take Gaza. Egypt has no claims in Gaza and it does not want to annex Gaza. He said: We want to set an example of autonomy in Gaza so that the inhabitants of the West Bank would be encouraged, follow suit and establish autonomy.

Asked about the security measures in Sinai and whether Egypt is insisting on a specific number of years after which this matter would be reconsidered, Husni Mubarak said that Egypt believes that such security measures should not be left as they are indefinitely. He said: We will not accept restrictions being imposed on us on our land after the agreement is reached. He said that it is because of this that President Anwar as-Sadat had stated that within a specific length of time--and this is article IV--a meeting should take place. On this basis, some of the security arrangements would be reconsidered within 5 years or less.

As-Sadat Returns to Aswan

NC211220 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Aswan, 21 January--President Anwar as-Sadat returned to Aswan from Khartoum this afternoon after a 1-day visit, during which he attended the joint meeting of the Egyptian and Sudanese People's Assemblies.

Those who returned with President As-Sadat aboard the same plane were presidential assistant Engineer Sayyid Mar'i, presidential adviser Gen Muhammad al-Jamasi, Deputy Prime Minister for People's Assembly Affairs Fikri Makram 'Ubayd and Presidential Office Chief Hasan Kamil.

President as-Sadat was met on arrival at Aswan airport by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Air Force Commander Maj Gen Mahmud Shakir 'Abd al-Mun'im, Aswan Governor Engineer Ahmad Taha Husyan and provincial political and popular leaders.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE ON ISRAELI RAID ON LEBANON

NC191829 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1807 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 January--A responsible source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has stated that Egypt condemns the Israeli raid on southern Lebanon. The source says the raid constitutes a serious threat to peace and flagrant aggression at a time when U.S. diplomatic efforts are underway to resume the negotiations for the achievement of a just, comprehensive and permanent settlement of the Middle East crisis. The source added that what makes this aggressive policy more dangerous is the fact that it is in line with the Israeli Government decision to establish new military positions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in violation of the rules of international law, the UN resolutions and the provisions of the Camp David agreements.

PAPER SAYS CARTER SENT MESSAGES TO EGYPT, ISRAEL

NC210740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 January--The newspaper AS-SIYASI today reports that U.S. President Jimmy Carter has recently sent messages to Egypt and Israel asking them to speed up the resumption of peace negotiations and the signing of the treaty.

The paper quotes well-informed sources as saying that the U.S. President will call for a new summit meeting in the second half of February at the latest to overcome the obstacles in the way of the peace efforts.

GHALI DENIES TREATY WILL BE SIGNED IN FEBRUARY

NC211030 Doha QNA in Arabic 0935 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 21 January--Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, has denied reports that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty will be signed in February.

In a statement published in the Egyptian weekly AS-SIYASI, he said that the signing of the treaty first requires the approval of the three parties to the negotiations--Egypt, the United States and Israel. He added: We are still prepared for further negotiations.

Discussing the situation in the area following the events in Iran, Dr Butrus Ghali said that there are two currents of opinion: The first is that these events will make Israel continue its hardline position on the basis that its situaton has worsened not only because of the disruption of Iranian oil supplies but also because Iran has become a hostile state and, therefore, Israel needs guarantees. The other opinion is that Iranian events have consolidated the position of the Arab rejection front and this might encourage Israel to be more flexible and turn toward peace.

PAPER ANSWERS MOSCOW RADIO ATTACKS ON EGYPT

NC220653 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 22 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 22 January--AL-AKHBAB comments on the attacks and lies that Soviet propaganda media make against the present regime in Egypt and against the Egyptian people. Last week this propaganda reached the point of inciting agents of the Soviet Union to repeat the riots and sabotage incidents which took place on 18 and 19 January 1977. The paper says that in the height of the fit that has hit Soviet propaganda, Moscow Radio began talking about the Egyptian budget, which is purely an Egyptian internal affair. The Soviet Union still considers Egypt an estate of Moscow and thinks it has the right to intefere in its internal affairs. The paper adds that Moscow Radio did not explain in its commentary who ruined the Egyptian economy because it knows that those who did that with studied planning were the Soviet economic experts. The radio also did not explain that one of the reasons for the economic crisis in Egypt is the Soviet weapons. Concluding its commentary, the paper says that Egypt is rebuilding its economy and repaying its debts. Its financial position has become the subject of respect by the countries of the world because Egypt honors its commitments and fulfills its promises. Moscow's vilifications should have been addressed to the Kremlin leaders, who did their best to ruin the Egyptian economy. But Egypt was able to foil the plot and rebuild its economy.

SECURITY AUTHORITIES SEIZE ANTIREGIME LEAFLETS

NC202005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 January--The Supreme State Security Court prosecution the day before yesterday received a memorandum from the State Security Investigations Department. The memorandum advises that the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party has been issuing leaflets and statements containing false reports and provocative remarks liable to disturb public security, incite the masses and threaten social peace. The distribution of these leaflets and statements was not limited to party members but extended to include the citizens, particularly in the student and worker sectors. The memorandum said that this has been confirmed with the arrest of Majidah Husayn al-Fuli, a teacher in the Ministry of Education. She was arrested while distributing these leaflets among students inside the College of Science without having any connection with the college. These leaflets were also distributed to citizens in Al-Mansurah City. The memorandum concluded with a request for permission to seize these leaflets and statements and the machines used to print them. After Attorney General Anwar Abu Sahli gave his approval, Chief Supreme State Security Court Prosecutor Raja' al-'Arabi issued a warrant to search the party headquarters and seize the leaflets and statements and their originals and the machines and printing equipment. This took place in the presence of Yusuf Diraz, head of the prosecution in the Supreme State Security Court in accordance with Article 14/2 of Law No 40 of 1977 on political parties. The search which took place the day before yesterday resulted in the seizure of the handwritten originals and many copies of the printed leaflets which were ready for distribution. The printing presses and tools were also seized. Several copies of leaflets and statements issued by secret communist organizations in Egypt and abroad attacking the present regime and propagandizing for their principles in the country have also been seized. The Supreme State Security Court prosecution is conducting an investigation under the direction of the attorney general. The ASU Central Committee secretary general has been informed of the measures which have been taken within the time limit set by the law on political parties.

MAMDUH SALIM ARRIVES IN NAIROBI WITH MESSAGE FOR ARAP MOI

For Nairobi Radio reportage on the official visit to Kenya of special assistant to President as-Sadat, Mr Mamduh Salim, which began on 21 January, see the East Africa section of the Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES SPANISH DEFENSE MINISTER

JN211238 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan--This evening Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, received Lt Gen Manuel Gutierrez Mellado, Spanish first deputy prime minister for defense affairs, who is currently visiting Iraq.

Saddam Husayn and the minister reviewed the friendly relations between the two countries and discussed means of further developing bilateral cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Lt Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah Talfah, Revolution Command Council member and minister of defense; Jose Maria, ambassador at the Spanish Foreign Ministry; and the Spanish charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

Talks Begin

JN211040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1018 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan--Talks began in the Defense Ministry here today between the Spanish military delegation headed by Lt. Gen Manuel Gutierrez Mellado, Spanish first deputy prime minister for defense affairs, and the Iraqi military delegation headed by staff Lt Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah Talfah, member of the Revolution Command Council and defense minister.

Talfah welcomed the visiting minister and his accompanying delegation, pointing out the strength of the historic bonds which link the two friendly peoples and countries.

Mellado said he was happy to visit Iraq to familiarize himself with the development of the Iraqi Armed Forces and to strengthen the bonds of cooperation between the armed forces in the two countries.

The discussions dealt with means to expand cooperation between the Spanish and Iraqi armed forces.

SOVIET 'ROVING AMBASSADOR' ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN211930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan-- Valerian Zorin, the Soviet roving ambassador, arrived here this evening on a short visit to Iraq.

In a statement made upon arrival, Zorin expressed his delight at visiting Iraq and said that he will meet Iraqi officials and discuss means of further consolidating cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union in accordance with the friendship treaty signed by the two countries. He will also discuss the agenda of the forthcoming 35th session of the Human Rights Committee, to convene in Geneva in February.

VISIT OF GUINEAN PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE ENDS

Meeting With Ba'th Party

JN1292131 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan--Talks were held in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command building here this evening between delegations of the Arab Ba'th Party and the Democratic Party of Guinea.

The Ba'th Party delegation was headed by Michel 'Aflaq, Ba'th Party secretary general, while the Guinean delegation was headed by President Ahmed Sekou Toure, secretary general of the Democratic Party of Guinea.

The Ba'th Party delegation was made up of Dr Munif ar-Razzaz, Arab Ba'th party assistant secretary general in charge of foreign affairs at the National Command; Khalid (Bshur), member of the Foreign Relations Office; and 'Abd al-Husayn Mahdi, nonresident Iraqi ambassador to Guinea. The Guinea side was made up of the members of the delegation accompanying President Sekou Toure.

'Aflaq welcomed President Sekou Toure and the delegation accompanying him. He stressed the depth of the struggle relations between the two parties and their determination to struggle against imperialism to achieve their objectives of liberation and building a developed society.

'Aflaq added that Iraq stands by the Guinean people in their struggle against imperialism and for building a new progressive society. This position, 'Aflag added, is part of Iraq's stand in support of the struggling forces in Third World countries against imperialism, and for victory and liberation. 'Aflaq expressed the hope that President Sekou Toure's visit to Iraq will be a new factor which will help to strengthen the historic relations between Iraq and Guinea in the interests of the two friendly peoples.

During the talks, the Guinean president stressed the importance of direct contracts among progressive parties to strengthen their struggle against imperialism. He said: We have come to Iraq convinced that our militant bonds will deepen and become stronger because we have a common struggle and a similar position in most fields. He affirmed Guinea's support and backing for the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their usurped rights and liberate their land.

The Guinean president pointed out the importance of cooperation among the Third World peoples and liberation movements to combat imperialism. He affirmed that the Zionist entity is only one of the imperialist bases.

The Guinean president then reviewed the Guinean people's struggle against imperialism; the processes of social, economic and political transformations in his country since its independence in 1958 and the stages of development covered by the Guinean revolution in various fields.

The two sides then reviewed the relations and bonds existing between the two parties and the means to strengthen these relations in the interests of the two peoples in the two friendly countries and of the liberation movements in the world.

Husayn Meets Sekou Toure

JN201522 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 January--A meeting was held here today between Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, and Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure. During the meeting, they discussed the means to develop relations between Iraq and Guinea. They also exchanged views on the Arab and international situation.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi and by members of the delegation accompanying President Sekou Toure.

Economic, Technical Cooperation

JN201523 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan--'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council member and planning minister, met here today with N'faly Sangare, Guinea minister of planning and economic cooperation, and Namady Kaba, Guinea minister of industry and energy. The discussion during the meeting centered on economic and technical cooperation between Iraq and Guinea and the means to develop this cooperation.

The two Guinea ministers are members of the delegation accompanying Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Visit Ends

JN201836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1755 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 20 Jan--Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the People's Revolutionary Guinean Republic, left Baghdad this evening at the end of a 3-day official visit to Iraq. The Guinean president was accorded an official sendoff. He was seen off by President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, Revolution Command Council members, ministers and several high-ranking officials.

BA'TH PARTY FOUNDER RECEIVES MOROCCAN PARTY MEMBER

JN211615 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] In his office last night at the National Command Building, Comrade Michel 'Aflaq, founder and secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Comrade 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Yusufi, Political Bureau member of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces in Morocco.

During the meeting, Comrade 'Aflaq affirmed that the progressive Arab movement's invigoration through unity is evidence of the sincerity of the feeling of unity among all people. He added that the lessons learned by the Arab nation should not be lost and that the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement was not coincidence but an expression of the Arab nation's spirit and experiences. This rapproachement, he added, overcomes all bitterness felt by the Arab nation and is the result of Arab maturity over 20 years of bitter experiences and setbacks, as well as of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's maturity. This is because the party has been able to respond to the demands of the Arab masses and the issue of common Arab destiny. The solution has to be at this level, particularly as the pan-Arab situation, including crucial threats and treason, has reached its ugliest stage. Moreover, the enemies' disregard of the Arab nation is at its highest point. Thus the reply must be at the level of the Arab nation.

Comrade 'Aflaq added: The Iraqi-Syrian rapproachement has enough potential to face the dangers and enjoys a genuine ability to proceed constructively, not only in defending the Arab nation but in working to build unity and to approach the masses in the Arab homeland. He pointed out that the Iraqi-Syrian rapproachement is a supporting pillar for the progressive Arab forces.

Therefore, he said, these forces must, now more than ever, achieve unity of struggle and action in cooperation and rapprochement. Two countries' unity is based on the unionist trend and ideology in the Arab homeland. It is also evidence of the reliability and correctness of this trend and ideology.

At the outset of the meeting, which lasted over an hour and was attended by Ba'th National Command member Badr ad-Din (Mudhakhkhar), Comrade 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Yusufi praised the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement and gave a high evaluation of the efforts of the two countries' leaderships and their earnestness in achieving complete unionist dimensions in the rapprochement. He said: The Socialist Union of the Popular Forces in Morocco supports the rapprochement because it strengthens and supports all progressive Arab forces and is a deep and honest expression of the uniqueness of the Arab nation in facing these decisive periods of history.

NONALINED JOURNALISTS MEETING OPENS IN BAGHDAD 21 JAN

JN211845 Baghdad INA in English 1730 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 21, INA--The 1st working session of the nonaligned journalists meeting [which] opened in Baghdad today elected Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, Iraqi minister of information and chairman of the Iraqi Journalist Union, as chairman of the meeting and Jouan Miric, representative of Yugoslavia, as rapporteur general.

The session then named two chairmen for the professional committee and the political committee, a Cuban and a Palestinian, and regarded the international working committee which was set up by the inter-governmental information coordination council of the non-aligned states as the meeting's drafting committee.

After that, Hammudi read a working paper prepared by the international committee.

The professional committee dedicated to discussing opportunities of training for non-aligned journalists. [sentence as received] The committee is expected to view possible benefit from a solidarity school for training of journalists to be opened in Baghdad shortly and training courses and schools sponsored by UNESCO and regional and international journalists organizations.

The committee will view press freedom and legislations relating to unions and social securities for journalists, exchange of expertise and coordination of relations on international and regional levels to serve the non-aligned movement. The other committee, the political committee, will deal with solidarity issues between journalists organizations of the non-aligned states, how to activate their joint activities and undertakings to serve the struggles of nations and liberation movements in the world, consolidating the role of the non-aligned movement in disseminating humanitarian concepts.

The committee will discuss means for guaranteeing proper atmosphere for achieving balanced exchange of information in what serves the interests of peoples, their freedoms and political, and economic independence and for the cause of reinforcing peace and understanding among nations.

The meeting is attended by representatives of 30 journalists organizations and unions as well as representatives from the UNESCO, the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ), the Palestine Liberation Movement and the Eritrean liberation movement.

President's Message to Journalists

JN211950 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 21 January--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has stressed that the news media are no longer the responsibility of regimes, but have become the property of the masses, who can use the media to express their hopes and aspirations and as an instrument alerting them to the feverish conspiracies being hatched by imperialism, Zionism, reaction and racism. President al-Bakr said this in a message addressed to the first meeting of the nonalined press organizations and unions, which opened in Baghdad this morning. The following is the text of the president's speech, which was delivered on his behalf by Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi:

Brothers and friends, greetings. I would like to welcome you to Baghdad, the city of Arabism, revolution and progress, and to wish your meeting complete success in achieving the objective of strengthening the cooperative ties among journalists of the nonalined states.

Gentlemen: The news media are no longer the responsibility of regimes but have become the property of the masses, who can we use the media to express their hopes and aspirations and as an instrument alerting them to the feverish conspiracies being hatched by imperialism, Zionism, reaction and racism. Therefore your agreement to coordinate matters among your press organizations, to exchange skills, to raise professional standards and narrow the gap between the nonalined states' press organizations and those of the technically advanced countries will help bolster the nonalined movement and lead to a better understanding of the problems and just demands of the nonalined nations.

Iraq strongly supports the nonalined movement. It has sponsored and enthusiastically participated in the movement's various activities. Iraq has also requested that the 1982 nonalined summit convene in Baghdad due to its belief in the nonalined role in reducing world tension, establishing world peace and eliminating the hotbeds of aggression, especially in occupied Palestine, where the Zionist enemy is employing the most hideous forms of suppression, aggression, expansion and racism against the Palestinian Arab people, who are fighting to return to their usurped homeland and to determine their own destiny on their national soil.

Once again, I greet you and hope that you will reach decisions compatible with the current critical world situation and harmonious with the aspirations of our struggling nations.

ROYAL DECREE ISSUED APPOINTING MEMBERS OF SENATE

JN211932 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] A royal decree was issued today appointing the members of the Senate as of 20 January 1979 as follows: Mudar Badran, Bahjat at-Talhuni, Sa'id Jum'ah, Ahmad Tuqan, Zayd ar-Rifa'i, Hashim al-Hayyusi, Anastan Hanania, 'Abd ar-Rahman Khalifah, Farhan Shubaylat, 'Akif al-Fayiz, Riyad al-Miflih, Dayfallah al-Humud, 'Ali al-Hindawi, Salih al-Majali, Salah Tuqan, Dr Subhi Amin 'Amr, Fadl ad-Dalqamuni, Hasan al-Kayid, 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Fu'ad Qaqish, Kamil 'Urayqat, Muhammad Hashim, Nawfan as-Su'ud, Muhammad Abu Tayih, Muhammad Minwir al-Hadid, 'Imran al-Ma'ayitah, Ahmad al-Khalil, Su'ud al-Fadil, Qasim al-'Aytan, and Faysal al-Jazi.

Another royal decree was issued appointing Bahjat at-Talhuni as president of the Senate as of 20 January 1979.

JORDANIAN-KOREAN TRADE TALKS BEGIN IN AMMAN

JN202038 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Trade talks between Jordan and Korea started today at the headquarters of the Ministry of Industry and Trade. A Korean delegation headed by the under secretary of the Korean Ministry of Trade held today's talks with a Jordanian team led by the under secretary of industry and trade, Dr Hashim Dabbas. The talks aim at developing trade exchange and the signing of a trade agreement between the two countries.

AD-DUSTUR: DIALOG WITH PLO TO RESUME IN AMMAN

JN210816 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Jan p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--It has been learned from the delegations participating in the Palestine National Council meetings that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialog will resume soon in Amman and that the Palestinian side in the dialog will be headed by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department. It has also been learned that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, will visit Amman soon.

MOROCCAN COMMERCE MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMMAN FOR MEETINGS

JN210134 Amman JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 21 Jan--Abdelkamel Raghaye, minister of commerce and industry in the fraternal Kingdom of Morocco, arrived in Amman last night at the head of an official delegation on a 4-day visit to Jordan. He will meet with the prime minister, the minister of industry and trade, and senior Jordanian officials.

Mr Raghaye will head the Moroccan delegation to the meetings of the Jordanian-Moroccan joint committee formed by the economic and trade agreement between Jordan and Morocco. This agreement was signed by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan during his visit to Morocco in May.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS ISRAELI RAIDS 21 JANUARY

NC210646 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Israeli naval and air attacks took place during the night on some southern and northern areas while Israeli artillery behind the border bombarded An-Nabatiyah and its outskirts. A state of tension prevailed in the southern area last night, and the situation remains tense this morning. The Israeli artillery bombarded An-Nabatiyah, Al-'Ayshiyah and some Palestinian positions in Lebanon.

At 2330 yesterday, naval units were seen opposite Tyre while five Israeli helicopters flew over the city. At 0130, military planes flew over the northern area while gunboats appeared opposite Nahr al-Barid and opened fire on Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid refugee camps. Fighters in both camps have anticipated an air landing operation there and have adopted quick precautions.

At midnight, flares were fired over Arnun. No details on these operations were reported by either side. However, it was reported that the bombardment of the south, which began at 2230, continued until this morning. The results are still unknown.

Israeli Shelling Resumes 22 Jan

NC220627 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 22 Jan 79 NC

[Text] After relative calm yesterday evening, the Israeli artillery resumed shelling Palestinian positions in An-Nabatiyah and its outskirts. Heavy Israeli artillery bombardment continued until dawn today against southern towns and villages where armed Palestinians were present.

Reports from the south indicate that a number of people were killed or wounded in the bombardment. A Palestinian source said that an area 20 kms wide and 23 kms deep was the field of military operations.

News agencies say that Israeli concentrations were seen along the border and gunboats were seen off Tyre and Sidon.

BEIRUT RADIO: ISRAELI ATTACKS CHALLENGE NEW UN RESOLUTION

NC220630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] The Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon resumed yesterday and continued until after midnight. These attacks constitute a great challenge to the United Nations and the recent Security Council resolution. The Israeli attacks, which yesterday were heavily centered on An-Nabatiyah and on 12 nearby villages, are condemned at the local, Arab and international level.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS DEATH OF ADF SYRIAN COMMANDER

NC211007 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0930 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Col Mahmud Jamil, commander of the Syrian forces of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF], was found shot dead in his office in Riyaq. Some sources said that Colonel Jamil was killed by a stray bullet in the head fired by his son. The ADF Forces Command has not so far reported the incident.

Syrians Arrested for Killing

NC211850 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] According to a report received by Voice of Lebanon from Al-Biqa' area, Syrian intelligence forces have arrested seven officers and NCO's of the Syrian Army on the charge of assassinating Col Mahmud Jamil, the Syrian commander of the deterrent force in Riyaq. The report adds that the Syrian intelligence forces surrounded the Al-Aba' al-Bid barracks, the headquarters of the Deterrent Forces Command, and arrested the suspects. Informed sources have stated that Colonel Jamil was assassinated because he was assigned to interrogate and torture Iraqis and party members in Lebanon who are subservient to Iraq.

ADF Explains Death of Commander

NC211340 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[21 January statement by responsible source of Arab Deterrent Forces--ADF--Command; read by announcer]

[Text] Some information media reported inaccurately the death of Col Mahmud Jamil, the commander of one of the ADF units operating in Al-Biqa'. The fact is that while the family of the colonel, which consists of his wife and his children, was in his house in Shtawrah on the occasion of a school holiday, his 13-year old son took his father's pistol, and while he was tossing it in his hands, a shot was fired from the pistol that hit and killed Colonel Jamil.

VOICE OF LEBANON: SYRIAN POSITIONS EXCHANGE FIRE

NC21005 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0930 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] This morning, fire was exchanged between two Syrian positions in the center of the capital--one in the Grand Theater area and the other near Saint George's Cathedral. The reasons for the exchange and the number of casualties are unknown.

[Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon at 1715 GMT on 21 January reports that "at 1845 today the Syrian forces opened light and medium machinegun fire and directed antiarmor and DSHK projectiles on the Badaru-Hurj al-Kufuri area from their positions in Kalut building and At-Tarabulsi barracks. The firing was continuing when this bulletin was prepared. There have been no reports about any casualties. Other security reports speak of sniping incidents along the contact lines in the southern suburb. An inhabitant of Al-Majadilah quarter was wounded when hit by bullets fired by Syrian forces in the Chevrolet area. Sniping continued in the commercial area this afternoon. There have been no reports of any casualties."]

TUWAYNI SPEAKS AT UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

NC200810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpts] At dawn today the UN Security Council renewed the mandate of the UN forces in Lebanon for another 5 months. It condemned the lack of cooperation, especially by Israel and the irregular armed groups, with the UN forces for the full implementation of the UN forces mission.

Addressing the UN Security Council, Lebanon's permanent representative at the United Nations, Ghassan Tuwayni, said that the Israeli aggression and the actions that preceded it were tantamount to an advance Israeli reply to any attempt to strengthen the UN forces and enable them to do their duty effectively and let the Lebanese Army participate in completing the deployment of the UN forces in southern Lebanon. He added that while voicing his government's strong complaint against this aggression, he was reserving the right to seek a debate on it in another session. Ambassador Tuwayni added: We must emphasize the following:

1. Israel has not adhered to Resolution 425 nor, later, to Resolutions 426 and 434. It has not responded to all that the council has advocated, expressed, condemned or regretted.

2. Diplomatic action has apparently not persuaded Israel to concede or respond. If the time has come to drop the diplomatic option, then we support whoever wants to try to use the military option. If this is not to be, then it should be at least be a deterrent option.

3. The UN forces have chosen not to use all means at their disposal to fully implement their task and exercise their rights without exceeding their military prerogatives. They have not considered it possible or necessary so far to use force or confirm their military credibility by underscoring their right of self-defense against those who wish to restrict their freedom of movement and deployment.

4. Until recently, the situation in Lebanon, as stated by the secretary general, and the state of the Lebanese Army have made it impossible for the UN forces to participate effectively in an integral Lebanese plan to restore sovereignty and authority in southern Lebanon.

Tuwayni added: We have said all this and admitted it very simply and frankly. We now feel that we must once again emphasize that the time has come to take serious and strong action, learn from past experiences and pay more attention in the future to fulfilling the unfulfilled objections. This, Tuwayni said, calls for a clear plan of action within the framework of a specific timetable and detailed program. He also said: My government is now confident that it can participate with the UN forces in an integrated plan of action. This applies not only to the government but also the Chamber of Deputies, which has resolutely and unanimously decided that in fact this is how it should be. We all feel that by doing this we will have upheld our rights and the dignity of our constitutional institutions, even if we could not regain our territory through our own means. We cannot continue to seek help from friends without doing something ourselves to deserve it.

Concluding, Tuwayni said: My country is neither for sale nor for rent, and the Lebanese people will prove this.

BUTRUS, AL-HUSS DISCUSS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Butrus' Remarks

NC201302 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] At 1000 today President Ilyas Sarkis met with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, Defense Minister and Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri and Internal Security Forces Director General Staff Brig Gen Ahmad al-Haj.

The discussions during the meeting dealt with the general situation, including the internal security situation; the new developments in the situation in south Lebanon and the UN Security Council resolution extending the UNIFIL mandate; and the steps to be taken in the future.

The meeting ended a short time ago. Upon leaving the Presidential Palace, Minister Butrus said: The events are intertwined and require long meetings.

Asked if today's meeting can be described as a security or political meeting, Minister Butrus said: No, it was not a security meeting in the true sense of the word but a political meeting having security repercussions, particularly regarding the south.

Asked to comment on the UN Security Council resolution, Minister Butrus said: As far as I am concerned, the Security Council resolution did not come as a surprise because I was aware of the extent to which the Security Council could go in adopting a position on the matters put before it and on the violations that we complained about, which were stressed by our UN delegate Ghassan Tuwayni.

Minister Butrus said: Naturally, we would have liked the Security Council to go further in its position, but it appears that the international circumstances and the game played by the world states made it necessary for the council to stop at this point in the present phase. However, we hope that this resolution will be implemented in a manner that will tangibly improve the situation and enable the state to completely regain its authority in the south and use the army there to discharge security duties. I cannot say anything more now until I have read the text of the resolution and the statements made by the representatives who participated in the voting.

Asked about the steps to be taken by Lebanon to help implement the resolution Minister Butrus said that these steps primarily concern the National Defense Ministry and the army command on the grounds that there is to be a timetable for implementation in phases with regard to the UNIFIL and the legitimate Lebanese forces.

Al-Huss' Remarks

NC200947 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Commenting on the UN Security Council resolution extending the mandate of the UN forces in southern Lebanon, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss said: While welcoming the Security Council resolution extending the mandate, we look forward with hope to the fulfillment of the resolution's appeal to the UN General Secretariat and the UN forces to take the necessary steps to insure full implementation of UNIFIL's mission in the south, as well as the Security Council's determination to resort to practical ways to implement its resolutions if the obstruction of the mission continues.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: We also welcome the appeal to the Lebanese Government to draw up a phased program, in consultation with the UN secretary general, for restoring Lebanese authority to the border area. We wish to point out that the Lebanese Government does have a plan for this, which was the outcome of the recent talks between the Lebanese Army and the UN Forces Command.

The new resolution is a test of the ability of the United Nations and the international community to end the continuous aggression against southern Lebanon.

While we hope that the next phase will see a full and accurate implementation of the UN forces task, as stipulated in Resolutions 425 and 426, leading to restoration of the Lebanese Government's full authority in the south, we cannot ignore the difficulties and obstacles, created by Israel, that have hampered and continue to hamper the UNIFIL's discharge of its duties. Israel's savage aggression against Lebanon in the past 2 days, while the UN Security Council was debating the issue of peace in the south, is flagrant confirmation of its aggressive intentions; insolent defiance of the international will, as reflected in the UN security resolutions; and rude violation of all the values and principles on which the United Nations is founded.

AL-HUSS HOLDS CONTACTS ON SECURITY SITUATION

NC211245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] This morning Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss held a series of contacts at his residence with Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman and the responsible security services concerning the security situation in the capital and its suburbs, as well as in southern Lebanon, which was the scene of armed clashes again last night. The towns of An-Nabatiyah and Al-'Ayshiyah came under artillery fire. The clashes also included several other villages in the central area of southern Lebanon.

It became clear through these contacts that there is no truth to reports circulated by some sources today that the Al-Baddawi area in the north was attacked by Israel.

AL-AS'AD, ARMY COMMANDER DISCUSS SITUATION IN SOUTH

NC211827 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] At 1500 today Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad met in his house in Tallat al-Khayyat with Defense Minister and Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri. They discussed the deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon and the defense bill.

A contact then took place between Speaker al-As'ad and Prime Minister al-Huss on the situation in southern Lebanon and current issues.

AL-ASAD REPORTEDLY THREATENS TO PULL OUT OF LEBANON

JN201226 Doha QNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 20 January--In a dispatch datelined Damascus, the Saudi magazine AL-YAMAMAH reported today that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad told Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss during his recent visit to Damacus that if Syria feels that the Lebanese Government is not serious about its intention to deal with and disarm the militias and assert its sovereignty over all of Lebanon, then this would mean that the Syrian presence in Lebanon was no longer justified and that Syria might request that other forces be found to replace its forces in April this year.

The magazine added that the Syrian president confided to Dr al-Huss that the Syrian Military Command is currently exerting strong pressure on the Syrian leadership to decide whether to withdraw from Lebanon or fight the Phalangists and National Liberals who have been clamoring about defeating the Syrian Army.

Al-Asad said: The situation is unbearable. We cannot go on waiting for another 6 months after April for the Lebanese Government to decide on its next step.

The Saudi magazine continued: Dr Al-Huss told President al-Asad that the Lebanese Government believes that President Sarkis is convinced now that the international winds blowing in the area will sweep Lebanon and destroy its remaining pillars if the Lebanese Government is not careful about the steps it is taking. Al-Huss added that the Lebanese Government is seriously trying to issue the defense law so it can build a national army. Furthermore, steps are being taken to enable the army command to assume its responsibility more effectively in Beirut.

The Saudi paper said: The Lebanese prime minister also explained to President al-Asad that the solutions being proposed to overcome the dilemma of the extension and avoid a head on clash with the militias are centered on the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Beirut and their redeployment in concentration centers outside the capital so they would be ready to intervene if the Lebanese Army and security forces were unable to cope with any problem.

The magazine concluded: Prime Minister al-Huss stressed that no matter how vexed the Lebanese president is with the Phalangists and Sham'unists, he has not despaired yet of continuing the dialog with them as he considers this method better than resorting to violence.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT FORD

JN191313 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus--At 1200 today President Hafiz al-Asad received former U.S. President Gerald Ford. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for foreign affairs; Gen (?Scott Ross), member of the delegation accompanying former President Ford; and Talcott Seelye, U.S. ambassador in Damascus.

Ford Leaves Damascus

JN191737 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Former U.S. President Gerald Ford left Damascus this afternoon following a short visit, during which he met with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad.

He was seen off at the airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; several Foreign Ministry officials; and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus. President Ford expressed his happiness over meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad and his visit to Syria. The talk centered on developments in the Middle East. In this regard, President Ford expressed his desire to hear the president's viewpoints. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad explained to President Ford the Syrian viewpoint and stand on the Camp David agreements.

His excellency the president hosted a luncheon in honor of President Ford and his aides, which was attended by several ministers.

BISHOP CAPUCCI MAKES STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL IN DAMASCUS

JN201345 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The militant Bishop Hilarion Capucci arrived in Damascus at dawn today. He knelt and kissed Syrian soil three times with tears in his eyes. The bishop then said: I am proud to have kissed the Syrian land, the land of struggle, confrontation and steadfastness. I kissed it because it is the beginning of the way leading us to Palestine and our bridge to Arab Jerusalem.

In a statement, the bishop hailed the role of Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad on all Arab issues. He thanked his excellency for the invitation extended to him to visit his fatherland. He also hailed the historic Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement and said: this epitomizes all our aspirations everywhere. The bishop pointed out that Syrian-Iraqi unity will be the cornerstone and nucleus of a comprehensive Arab unity and the effective weapon for the return and the achievement of the national aims.

The bishop expressed his happiness at meeting with his Palestinian brothers and said: I feel like the imprisoned soldier who has been released and returned to the arena of struggle. I will never rest or have peace of mind until we return to every inch of Palestine and to every inch of our beautiful Jerusalem.

After greeting the Palestinian strugglers who are bearing up under inhuman torture at the hand of the Israeli jailers and the steadfast Palestinian people in the occupied territories, the bishop said: We will realize our rights because we are not begging for them. We have rights and we will return to our homes and our holy places in Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

GUINEAN PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN201938 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived at Damascus International Airport this evening. After the official welcome ceremony, the visiting president left for the guest palace in Damascus in an official motorcade.

Syrian-Guinean Talks Held

JN211746 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] At 1000 today a meeting was held in the guest palace between President Hafiz al-Asad and Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure. At 1030 both presidents moved to the Presidential Palace, where official talks began.

His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad opened the meeting by welcoming President Ahmed Sekou Toure. He expressed thanks for Guinea's constant stand favoring the Arabs' just struggle for their rights and against aggression. During the meeting, President Ahmed Sekou Toure explained the stages of Guinea's struggle, both before and after independence. He also explained the African situation and the nature of African developments during this phase.

During his address, President Sekou Toure asserted Guinea's friendship for and absolute solidarity with the Syrian Arab Republic in its struggle against Zionist aggression.

It was agreed that remaining topics, including the Middle East situation, would be discussed in future meetings between the presidents.

Presidents Exchange National Medals

JN210954 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad gave a banquet in honor of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure at the Ad-Dimishdiyah Hall this evening. The members of the Guinean delegation, the Syrian prime minister, the prime minister's deputies, ministers, and the heads of the diplomatic missions in Damascus attended the banquet.

Before the banquet, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad presented President Ahmed Sekou Toure with the Umayyid National Medal of the Greater Order. President al-Asad said in presenting the medal that he was doing so on behalf of the Syrian Arab people as a symbol for strengthening friendship between our people and the Guinean people and as a symbol of bilateral solidarity. President al-Asad wished constant success for the Guinean people.

President Sekou Toure then presented the Greater National Medal to President Hafiz al-Asad, in the name of the Guinean people and revolution. He said while presenting the medal: This is the highest medal in Guinea, and we present it to the greatest personalities in the world. I present this medal to you as an appreciation of your efforts in leading the revolution in Syria. At the same time, I would like to express our absolute solidarity with you and with the revolution you are leading--the revolution of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. We are confident that cooperation between our two revolutions will further contribute to the cause of Islam and the advancement of human causes.

Prior to and during the banquet, both presidents reviewed the questions under discussion.

President Hafiz al-Asad and President Ahmed Sekou Toure attended a folklore festival organized by the Ministry of Culture at the officers' club theatre. The festival was attended by the members of the Guinean delegation and several Syrian officials.

Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi met this evening with Guinean Prime Minister Louis Lansana Beavogui at the prime minister's office. The meeting was attended by the members of the Syrian Arab and Guinean delegations participating in the talks.

During the meeting, they discussed cooperation between both countries and ways to strengthen and develop it in all economic, trade, and agricultural fields. They also discussed bilateral cooperation in the exploitation of natural resources and the means to increase trade.

TISHRIN REJECTS ISRAELI THREATS AGAINST SYRIA, IRAQ

JN201824 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 19 Jan 79 pp 8, 11 JN

[Article by Jubran Kuriyah: "Syria Does Not Fear Threats From the Enemies of Peace"]

[Text] Israel is worried these days. It is not worried about its rejection of the UN resolutions on the Middle East, its continued occupation of the Arab territories, its denial of the rights of the Palestinian people, or its war crimes and genocide in the occupied territories. Israel is not worried about its interference in Lebanon's internal affairs or about the fact that it is preventing the United Nations from carrying out its resolutions on southern Lebanon. What worries Israel is the unity steps being taken by Syria and Iraq--steps described by Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin as "constituting a real threat."

This Israeli worry about the unity steps between Iraq and Syria does not simply "dominate our thinking," as Yadin said, but has been transformed into Israeli reactions and open threats against Syria, Iraq and the PLO. If we listen to Israeli Radio, we find that two points are currently being emphasized: The first is the allegation that the unity activities between Syria and Iraq are based on intentions of war and aggression; the second is the overt threats directed at Syria and Iraq.

An Israeli Radio commentary said: "The leaders of Syria and Iraq will be mistaken if they think that they are facing an easy task. In recent years, experiments in unity have shown that abject failure was the result when two or more states united and met to plot against Israel. Syria knows this as well as Iraq, Jordan and others. In 1967, when the Arab rulers abandoned the ideas of unity and resorted to the treaties of aggression, which were called joint defense treaties, everybody saw what happened afterward."

Before discussing the Israeli threats, we must make an important point clear: namely, that Israel has turned itself into an umpire who decides who works for peace and who works for war. This is taking world public opinion for granted and reverses the truth. It is an obscurantist attempt that not even brazen Nazi Germany could match. World public opinion is aware that Israel and aggression are synonomous, and that since its establishment in 1948, Israel's history has been one of aggression, wars, expansion, and rejection of international law, UN resolutions and the UN Charter. It is enough to have a look at the areas assigned for the Jewish state by the 1948 resolution partitioning Palestine and to compare them with the areas currently under Israeli control. It will be seen that Israel has been an aggressive cancer that has never stopped expanding at the expense of Arab territories. Israel has never stopped its wars because the presence of Israeli forces in the Syrian territory of Golan, the Egyptian Sinai, the West Bank, Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip is in a sense a continuation of its war against the Arab countries and the Palestinian Arab people. Israel also invaded southern Lebanon and occupied large areas there, thus preventing Lebanese sovereignty from returning to the border areas. No country has been condemned more in the United Nations because of its aggression than Israel; no country has challenged world public opinion as Israel has been doing for the past 30 years; no country has opposed international peace efforts as Israel has.

Israel is the main obstacle to achieving peace in the Middle East because it rejects the objective conditions that are indispensable for the establishment of a just and lasting peace. These conditions have been laid down by the United Nations and adopted by the absolute majority of UN members, opposed only by Israel and the United States. These resolutions concern the withdrawal of the aggressive Israeli forces from the territories occupied in 1967 and insuring the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine on their land.

Syria has repeatedly announced through its leader, Hafiz al-Asad, that it is working for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Syria has also worked very sincerely with the United Nations in its efforts to implement the UN resolutions and to establish a just and lasting peace. This Syrian stand has been publicly praised by UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim on more than one occasion. Syria has also cooperated with every international effort aimed at establishing a just and lasting peace in accordance with the principles cited in the UN Charter and resolutions, which prohibit aggression, forbid the annexation of others' territories by force and give all people their right to self-determination.

If the international peace efforts in the Middle East are frozen, the ones responsible for this are Israel and its protector, the United States. The greatest examples of the work of Israel and the United States against peace in the Middle East are the Camp David accords, which completely disregard the prerequisites of a genuine peace, above all total Israeli withdrawal and the rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

In his speech on beginning his second constitutional term, President Hafiz al-Asad announced that a just and lasting peace was and will remain one of Syria's objectives. This objective is still valid, and Syria is ready to make every effort and cooperate with every faithful effort to achieve this objective. The just peace Syria aspires to is one that guarantees the rights of peoples, their sovereignty over their territories and their right to determine their destiny. This is also the peace called for by the United Nations and the overwhelming majority of the world states.

Aggressive Israel--which has displaced an entire people; denied their right to self-determination; occupied other people's territories; refused to withdraw; and keeps challenging the United Nations and disregarding its resolutions--is the last to have the right to talk about peace.

In addition, there are the Israeli threats against Syria and the other Arabs. These threats are not new and the method of threatening to use force is not new for Israel. It is the essence of its policy and a favorite practice, which stems from the nature of its aggressive racist entity that has organic links with U.S. imperialism. However, these threats will not intimidate anyone, particularly Syria. When Syria refuses to capitulate before Israel and the United States, works for a genuine just and lasting peace, and prepares for all the circumstances that will help establish a just peace it is preparing for every eventuality and taking every stand into account.

Syria does not fear the Israeli threats. Since the Israeli aggression and occupation have failed to influence Syria's will and national decision, Syria, under the leadership of President al-Asad, is ready for every eventuality and is ready to defend itself and its Arab nation. It is also ready to defend the Arab right to regain the occupied territories, and to defend and guarantee the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Syria does not stand alone in its work for peace and in its readiness to defend it and the inalienable Arab rights. It is supported by the masses of the Arab nation, the United Nations, and all states and forces that oppose colonialism.

Those who think that the clatter of arms will force peoples to kneel are making a big mistake and living in an obsolete past. The peoples will not kneel. The Arab people, who have not knelt in the past, will not kneel today or in the future.

AL-BA'TH COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN IRAN

JN211130 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 21 January--In an article entitled "Shahanshah Without a Throne and Generals Without Soldiers," AL-BA'TH says the rug has been pulled from underneath the Iranian Majlis and government, and with it, the desire of the United States to safeguard its oil, military and political interests. Bakhtiar, who is backed by the generals and the United States, is now threatening the people with the U.S. line of turning Iran into a bloodbath, either through him or his generals, the paper says.

AL-BA'TH adds: Bakhtiar is mistaken if he thinks he can be protected by a handful of generals who are considered enemies of the people, especially when we know that a previous government under a senior general failed to achieve the shah's dream of crushing the Iranian revolution.

AL-BA'TH says that the exiled leader of the Iranian revolution has ignored Carter's appeal to back the Bakhtiar government and begin a dialog with the remnants of the shah's regime, and is determined to establish a legitimate government acceptable to the people. He is pursuing his own way of defining the features of post-shah Iran. He says there will be an Islamic revolutionary council, a provisional government and the restoration of the people's rights to their oil and to replacing the shah's policy by one of confronting the aggressive imperialist base--Israel.

The paper concludes by saying that the Iranian revolution's policy of muffling the soldiers' rifles with roses, out of the belief that the army cannot but be on the side of the people, has begun to bear fruit in the streets of Tehran, from which the army is withdrawing, as have the mutinies in the army barracks.

AL-HALIBI READS BUDGET STATEMENT BEFORE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

JN211004 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi this evening read the government statement on the general budget of the state for the current year. The prime minister affirmed that the primary principle taken into consideration by the government in drafting the current state budget, which amounts to 22.591 billion Syrian pounds, was the development of the nation's defense capability. It seeks to raise the standard of our armed forces in terms of preparation, training, organization and armaments so it can fully defend the homeland and thus strengthen the pan-Arab position of Syria by giving it the means to play an effective role in the arena of steadfastness and confrontation.

Prime Minister al-Halabi said that our pan-Arab march toward unity dictates that we possess the capability to confront Zionist designs and the anti-unity capitulationist trends.

Prime Minister al-Halabi asserted that the conclusion of the Joint National Action Charter with Iraq and the subsequent agreements constitute a new springboard for a major unionist momentum in which the resources and capabilities of one people are pooled. The charter is an indication of the Arab nation's ability and steadfastness against all forms of plotting and capitulation.

ALGERIA

BITAT SETS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION FOR 7 FEBRUARY

LD220736 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The head of state, brother Rabih Bitat, yesterday signed a decree summoning voters on Wednesday, 7 February, for the election of the president.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT ARRIVES IN KHARTOUM 20 JANUARY

JN201041 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 20 (SUNA)--President Anwar as-Sadat of Egypt arrived here at 11:45 a.m. to attend the opening session of the joint parliamentary meeting between Sudan and Egypt.

NUMAYRI ADDRESSES SESSION OF EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE ASSEMBLIES

LD201818 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1110 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Speech by Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri at the opening session of the Egyptian-Sudanese People's Assemblies in Khartoum on 20 January--live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God. Mr Chairman, brother and sister members of the congress of the Nile Valley assembly, allow me first of all to address greetings to brother Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat [applause], welcoming him in his home and among his people.

Five years ago the will of our two peoples of the Nile was agreed upon regarding the question of integration. Throughout these years we have been training cadres and building institutions. Our main concern has been to look into our affairs realistically every time we have met, so as to [word indistinct] more confidence that we are on a safe and sound path. When we met in Cairo about a year ago, I said I was not in a hurry. So let us look into our affairs in the light of what I said then. We do not want the pillars of our effort to crack--as did efforts in the Arab and African areas. [passage indistinct]

The second matter concerns the fact that we want institutions for ourselves that are stronger and better lasting than those we have. Efforts toward integration, unity and unification in our region have collapsed because they have failed to provide the frameworks for the good intentions and the noble aims to protect those intentions and aims. I want to see our institutions capable and flexible. I do not want our institutions to be dependent on persons or governments; let governments come and go, but let the institutions remain.

I do not want our institutions to be a shelter for those of us who are working to make them; I want them to be a shelter for the principles which were contained in the Alexandria charter, when we made the first step on the sound path of integration in 1974.

All the sons of this valley have shared the sweet taste of victory and the bitterness of defeat and they have both experienced despair and hope. Our history has been a mixture of all this: of misery and sweat. Thus when we set up capable institutions, we are in fact organizing in a modern style what has always been with us by nature and of need. Methods have changed, but the goals remain the same. We are the instruments for that change.

I can say that much has been achieved in the past 5 years in the field of executive work. The building of the frameworks and institutions, which is an actual achievement, has been accomplished.

As you have become accustomed to with me, I would like to present to you what is going on in my mind with regard to some issues, in the hope that you will discuss these issues while studying the question of integration.

First, today we are on the threshold of a new stage after having completed the establishment of the structures and [words indistinct] so that they can become more flexible, capable and effective. This of necessity requires us to stop every now and then to reappraise our course in the light of a full consideration of what capabilities our reality allows and what obstacles may confront us at the level of this reality. We should review our steps along the path of the single action, beginning with malfunctioning and shortcomings in an endeavor to attain [words indistinct] discarding the negatives and fostering the positives, always casting our sights toward the future and the challenges this future may entail. We should not accept speedy activity in order to satisfy the call of our sentiments; nor should we be overcautious and take slow steps, as we sometimes see happen.

Second, the aim which we strive for in the long run is unity. We will take the path of integration as the means to lead us to the attainment of this aim. However, the path of integration is not confined to structures and frameworks. It is true that there is a permanent and continuous exchange of views between the presidents of both countries. It is also true that committee meetings--irrespective of their level--are being held here and there. It is true that the heads of the legislative authorities in both countries hold annual meetings. We should (?aspire) [words indistinct] our method of action. There is nothing in this field that is more effective than direct contact between (?the two peoples). We want you to derive means which are capable of moving continuous meetings forward--meetings between youth, women, farmers and workers in both countries.

Third, it is inevitable that the construction movement should always go hand in hand with [words indistinct] of the need and the aim. Workers should be inspired and be attached to the aims. Integration is a vital necessity of everyday life and a shield with which we can protect ourselves and through which we can express our thoughts and aspirations.

We are part of the Arab nation and part of the African Continent. We are about to enter a precious experiment [words indistinct] the nation of the Arabs, manifested in the establishment of the Arab League; the latter, of necessity, was something that aimed at integration. This was translated by the peoples of Africa into the establishment of the OAU; the latter was again something that aimed at integration. Therefore, we are responsible before history for embarking on a course of action that cannot afford failure. Our course of action is yet another addition along the road that will lead to the fulfillment of our aims, and it is not an axis being created among brothers in an aim to create disunity; it is a framework open for them which they can join when they wish to do so. Therefore, we should bear in mind the possibility of our brothers joining us in future. In short, our course of action will be the criterion by which the peoples of the region will pass judgment on this action which is aimed at unity--positively or negatively.

Devoting our energies to the implementation of a few well-studied projects at each stage, in accordance with the results of our experiences, would be better than scores of over-ambitious projects which would be too much for us to undertake and which would result in a waste in effort and (?time).

We are considering the question of developing our (?institutions) and potentials. Through the institutions, we are working to develop these and to raise their standard. Good as all this is, it does not, however, quite respond to the requirements of the distant future in the light of constant economic and international changes. There are possibilities of a growing increase in the prices of materials we need for reconstruction, of food (?shortages), and of energy supply (?fluctuations). There are many such possibilities. We must adopt a long-term strategic method which takes care of the future.

I know, for example, that our brothers in Egypt have adopted a long-term strategy up to the year 2,000. I think this is a matter you should consider. Why should your session not debate the question of creating the machinery to lay down such a long-term strategy for the whole of the Nile Valley based on a long-term (?assessment) of its (?resources) and requirements, attending to irrigation and food projects for the population of the Nile Valley, and securing it, too, for the brothers of the Arab nation and the continent? This will serve as a lifebelt for us and them in circumstances of pressures and blackmail--which are both practiced by some of the big powers.

The machinery should attend to the planning of the basic needs of the Nile Valley people with regard to their livelihood, housing and clothing over the long term. It should lay down principles of economic development compatible with environmental factors for many generations to come. It should determine the resources [word indistinct] and prepare starting now for the possibility of exploiting them by the adoption of modern technology in the interest of coming generations, not just of our own generation only, as we are now doing.

Together with Egypt we will continue to strive to lay down the foundations of a just and comprehensive peace--peace for us and for others, beginning with our (?forgiving) principles without being restricted in a movement, a peace not dictated by a disability, victory or despair, but one which is made inevitable by the age in which we live.

We are with Egypt which rejects a separate solution [applause] and which is making strides to achieve withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and guarantee the right of the fraternal Palestinian people [applause] to return to their homeland and establish their state in accordance with their will. We are with Egypt in the worthy call to the Arab nation to show solidarity and to be cohesive in the face of the present challenges, in the struggle for existence in an age of axes, blocs, and alliances. And we are with Egypt in unleashing modern capabilities in the Nile Valley--along the length of the river and the width of the area.

We are together in rejecting pressures and any alien influences from outside on our popular will and national pride. [applause]

We are together in belonging to Africa and in loyalty to Africa. We are together in a prominent presence in the battles for Africa's liberation. Together we favor the peoples struggling for freedom and progress in Namibia and Zimbabwe, where battles are raging fiercely against racial discrimination and colonialism.

We will remain together, dear brothers, [word indistinct] in an Arab-African cohesion to which we give the boldness of our will which derives from the yield of our land and the capabilities of our people. We will remain together in maintaining the nonalined movement, remote from the struggles of axes and blocs and the danger of the (?secret) and exposed infiltration and the methods of containment and interference. We will remain together and represent a victory for the principles of the Islamic gathering and we will be attached to them in the call for right, justice and (?mutual assistance) [words indistinct].

Dear brothers, a final frank word I [word indistinct] my view about integration [few words indistinct] whenever we have met, many views in fact, but I want to stop at an opinion which some of us have [word indistinct]. Through you, dear brothers and sisters, we talk to those who point it out. I want to refer to rumors by writers from outside the area. They allege that cautious groups in our country are expressing a hidden fear that Sudan will become a small partner in a big alliance. They speak about this. It appears that they have long known us, if we assume good intentions. They continue to take into account the conditions which prevailed here before May--conditions of fear and shortsightedness through the eyes of a party or a certain element. The facts of the present political and economic life in Sudan do not substantiate what they say.

National unity between the south and the north is now 8 years old. A generation of men is taking care of it and these men have known the harshness of war between the two parts of the country and have begun to build what we destroyed with our hands for 17 years. They do not have the time to waste in the [word indistinct] which was during those years. On their side are men who [words indistinct] between the sons of the same homeland, returned a few years ago to their homeland with stronger belief in its unity and the soundness of its objectives. They tasted the sweetness of peace and the honor of construction and the satisfaction filling the soul. They all came together around a thought stemming from the will of our people, working hard to achieve its (?highest levels).

Everyone knows that the integration we seek aims at serving everybody in Sudan and not a community, region or a tribe. It also aims at serving everybody in Egypt, and not an individual in Tanta or in Aswan.

The new generation which I mentioned has begun, with its own sweat, to write the history of modern Sudan and it does not take refuge in others.

Dear sisters and brothers, members of the Nile Valley People's Assembly, these are my words to you on this glorious day, the day of the session of the Nile Valley People's Assembly, on the soil of the brave Omdurman. [applause] Study some of these words if you wish. Look into the documents you have. Exchange views in freedom, responsibility and frankness which has no place for courtesies. You are dealing with the fate of a nation. Let your work be a useful impetus along the road to integration. This is what we hope, know and wish.

As-Sadat Address

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[Speech by President Anwar as-Sadat at the opening of the joint session of the Egyptian and Sudanese People's Assemblies in Omdurman--live]

[Text] In the name of God. My brother President Ja'far Numayri, Mr chairman of the session, brother and sister representatives of the people of Egypt and Sudan: If I am to tell you what I felt as I was preparing for this second unified session of the Nile Valley's People's Assembly, then allow me to say most truthfully that I see this national gathering as an ideal expression of the hope of every Arab citizen that a firm genuine unity prevail throughout the Arab homeland--a unity free from empty slogans, flowery language, and all selfish interests and mortal ambitions. It is a strong and faithful merger based above all on true unity of fate and objective and built through a deep scientific approach. This will turn it into a lofty edifice unshaken or unfelled by storms. It is a unity for one and the same people, one free entity, and a solid block of will, thought, work and planning.

The age of slogans is over and the age of resounding speeches and zealous and emotional words is gone forever. All that is left for us to build our present for the future generations is to face the international and cultural realities, and to live up to all the requirements of our time with science and study as well as with the fulfillment of common interests, mature dealing with the international circles, and being open to all the political and intellectual trends which govern the world--all this so that our movement will be based on study; to make our movement effective and to move it in the right direction, and also to guide our national and international movement in the right direction that is understood by the conscious world and that is respected and appreciated. All this boils down to the fact that our joint march toward vistas of development and progress for our peoples should be a civilized one that will make up for every shortage and failure that was brought upon us by the forces of imperialism and tyranny. It should provide all the healthy atmospheres necessary for a great cultural leap that will put us in our right place on the map of the developed world.

In my opinion, this is the primary responsibility of the political, economic and social leaderships in our land. It is the responsibility for working and dealing in accordance with the language and the method of the century. The language of the century is the language of science and development. The method of the century is that of well-thought-out planning and courageous confrontation. Without the language of the century and without the method of the century, your armed forces would not have been able to achieve the Arab nation's first military victory during the immortal October War. [applause] In this war, Egyptian and Sudanese blood intermingled as a testimony of martyrdom, of courage in storming and of an act of faith in the right of the Arab man to freedom in his free land. [applause]

Therefore--and rightly so--the whole world for the first time fully recognized the Arab nation's ability to wage the fiercest and most devastaing battle for the sake of dignity and for the sake of the Arab will. Without the language of the century and without the method of the century, the Egyptian peace initiative--which stemmed from the will of all of you--would not have convinced the whole world that a lasting and just peace based on respect for the Arab people's rights is the objective which should imperatively be fulfilled.

Without the language of the century and without the method of the century, the peace initiative would not have enjoyed this overwhelming and flaming support from all peace-loving forces and hundreds of millions of men and women throughout the world. These men and women, for the first time in the history of the Arab-Zionist conflict, have realized and have been convinced--also for the first time in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict--of the reality of this conflict and its dimensions. They have also realized that we are a nation which does not maneuver in the name of peace. They have realized that we are a nation setting the most splendid example of civilization in contemporary history and setting the most courageous example so that there will be peace on earth. [applause]

With the language of the century and with the method of the century, we have waged our struggle in the Valley of the Nile in order to achieve political, economic and legislative integration in the land of our valley. Our struggle is proceeding along a sound path. In waging this struggle, we are proceeding together and we are laying the groundwork for this integration together through coordinated thinking, unified work and joint efforts. We are doing these things in order to present to our generation and to the coming generations the most ideal model for the construction of an authentic, conscientious and firm unity for the people of the Valley of the Nile. This will be a unity of minds and hearts. [applause] It will be a unity of work and hope. Furthermore, it will be a unity jointly brought about by the joint work and the joint interests of the same family. This unity will set up a sound political edifice. It will build a fruitful economic structure, and it will abide by the supremacy of the unified law.

It is a unity that learns from all the lessons of the recent past on the Arab soil, and therefore a unity that does not emerge for the sake of a fabricated temporary purpose; nor does this unity seek to create blocs and thus become itself an axis of disintegration and division. It is a true and genuine integral unity that speaks the language of the present and uses the methods of the present.

My brother President Ja'far, chairman of the conference, brother and sister representatives of the Nile Valley: During our first conference in Cairo I told you that the people of the Nile Valley, with all their heritage and genuineness, have chosen the difficult road and that the fierce battles of destiny we face together are not confined to the struggle for the liberation of territory or the struggle for peace on our land, but also clearly manifest themselves in the firm stands we take to free our national will.

My brother President Ja'far, whose revolutionary leadership epitomizes the most splendid kind of heroism, courage and loyalty [applause], told you that we met so that we may struggle jointly for the liberation of land and man and for the progress of man in our valley and throughout the Arab-African homeland, and so that we may contribute, as much as possible and as much as we take upon ourselves, to the overall effort for peace and prosperity.

This, brothers and sisters, is the difficult road we have chosen together, as described by my brother President Ja'far. There is nothing that I can add today except to say that we chose this difficult road together and that this road requires of us more joint unbending resolve, relentless and unshaken steadfastness, and faith that backs up our resolve and steadfastness.

The foreign forces which have tried in vain to control our national will have not despaired nor have they learned the lesson of history. History affirms that the will of the people cannot be conquered by any power, however great it is and however great the resources of this great power, not even if it manages to find those among our people who, with good or ill intentions, open for it the doors for interference or provide for it the atmosphere for realizing its ambitions. These foreign forces do not want our land to be liberated and do not want our people to enjoy peace and prosperity. This doubles our national and historic responsibility and burden in meeting the challenge. It would be unwise to belittle this challenge. It would be against our conscience and commitment to our people if we were to overlook the effects and results of this challenge on the Arab and African map.

Our peoples have not granted us their confidence and entrusted us with their leadership in order that we may make concessions or squander. We will not be worthy of our existence if we abandon the brave confrontation or the enlightened and decisive dealing with all the challenges surrounding us. Therefore, we are meeting to bolster our forces and unite our methods in order that we may proceed along the road of political, economic and legislative integration. This is a strong foundation and even the strongest foundation which will enable the people of the eternal Nile Valley to proceed along the road of peace and prosperity on their free land and by their own will.

We thank God almighty that our call for peace, through the will of the millions, is now able to remove obstacles and surmount difficulties. This call is the right field for all progress and prosperity. It is no longer a [words indistinct] but has even become a historic mission, the banner of which is upheld by the friends of man everywhere. Even more, Egypt's call for peace has settled in the hearts of the Israelis themselves. We now hear, for the first time since the inception of Israel, of the Peace Now Movement. This movement now includes 250,000 Israeli citizens. These have recently been joined by 20 Israeli members of the Knesset. All these people are opposed to any obstacles on the path of peace placed by expansionist and chauvinistic thinking. Perhaps you have recently heard that public opinion polls within the United States, the source and protector of the Israeli existence, are determining that the majority of the U.S. people support the Egyptian position of adhering to the rights of the Palestinian people in their land. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, our call for peace was never aimed at reaching an agreement on a separate conciliation, as some biased people say. We have struggled and will continue to struggle for a durable and just peace which would liberate the land and restore the usurped Palestinian rights. [applause] Therefore, the Camp David principles establish that what applies to Sinai will also apply to the Golan. These principles recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in specific provisions, which record facts and do not play with words. This is why we insist that autonomy for the Palestinians be established in the West Bank and Gaza, that the Israeli military rule be terminated and that the Israelis withdraw to positions of security there. I say that we insisted that this should coincide with the steps of solution in Sinai. This is a clear and brilliant position which tolerates no mininterpretation and accepts no argument. It is not a vague position which abandons a fateful principle for the sake of a personal gain. It is a clear and brilliant position which we explained to the millions who followed my visit to Jerusalem with more interest than they followed the landing of man on the moon.

Our position is clear. We put it on record before the Knesset. Our position is that we seek no separate peace and that achievement of Palestinian rights in their land is the core of peace--and there will be no peace without the achievement of these rights. We have also put this position on record at all the discussions which have been held--before Camp David, during Camp David, and after it. Brothers and sisters, it is no secret that the discussions came to a standstill last month because we had not and we will not accept anything else. [applause]

We disregard all the attempts and arguments which have gripped some Palestinian leaderships and have drawn them into the labyrinths of outbiddings. Thus, these leaderships have left their destiny at the mercy of the blind alleys of loss. Therefore, I tell them that national consience asks them to reconsider their own positions with the honesty of responsibility. Up to this day, they are falling apart through their disputes and by drawing further from each other through estrangement, they are unable to make decisions, even over partial details of their work. Therefore, how do they expect others to listen to them when they consist of conflicting groups, disputing trends and opposing views? They are unable to make positive decisions, but they always resort to the negativism of rejection in order to avert the positivism of decision-making and to avoid presenting alternatives.

Before and after the Rabat conference, we told them that they had to organize themselves within a legitimate entity, which the world would recognize, by forming a government-in-exile. However, their disputes over government positions--and they have no government to this day--have prevented them from even agreeing on this easy decision.

We have appealed to the United States, using all means to convince it to deal with the PLO in the course of the peace discussions. We did this out of our support for the Palestinian role and out of our belief that peace can never be separated from the achievement of Palestinian rights.

However, those responsible for the area took one step forward in this positive domain, only to take several steps backward later. They committed themselves to specific positions which they had personally proposed. However, they extricated themselves from this obligation.

Everybody is aware of Egypt's efforts exerted by Egyptian diplomacy and of Egypt's efforts at all levels to elevate Palestinian representation to a responsible international and prestigious position with which all the capitals will deal. We threw all our weight behind serving the principles to which we committed ourselves as a matter of principle and destiny. However, the leaderships which have been torn apart by disputes and outbiddings have taken the cardinal cause to a negative position which neither fosters nor impairs this cause.

The Palestinian struggle does not need millions of dinars and dollars to be able to discharge its mission. However, it is primarily in need of burying the hatchet and facing up to the responsibility by making difficult decisions. Nor will subservience to the ambitions of an external force or to the axes of outbidding be the course leading to the triumph of Palestinian righteousness.

Brothers and sisters, peace is a historic objective expressing a phase of radical change in the present and future of the Arab area. However, peace is also a humanitarian objective which will enable us to pursue the course to prosperity. The course we should pursue toward the fulfillment of all these objectives lies in a true popular representation epitomizing the principles of the 23 July revolution in the north of the valley and protecting the principles of the [25 May 1969] revolution in the south of the valley. [applause]

The July revolution was nothing more than a ringing of the bells, an awakening of the pan-Arab spirit, and a release of all the latent potential in the Arab nation's peoples. It was a new conquest achieved in the struggle for freedom and liberation. The banners of this conquest extended to the states of Africa and Asia. Its light radiated in Latin America. The July revolution was verily the mother revolution, as stated by my brother, President Ja'far, when he said: It is the revolution which reversed the balance of power in the area and which took the struggle of all the defeated peoples into a new and glorious historic epoch. Brother President Ja'far also said: Therefore, it was no coincidence that the 25 May 1969 revolution of Sudan should surge forward as a stern reply to the decisions which were in 1967 aimed against Egypt and its revolution.

Brothers and sisters, the revolutionary march took place in the north and south of the valley through all the pure and serene values and all the faith of the simple and honorable people. The revolutionary march took place in the north and south of the valley to entrench the continuing historic struggle through the call for democracy in words and actions. The leaderships in Egypt and Sudan were then elected by direct popular referendum. Then followed the establishment of the constitutional institutions. Legitimacy was then achieved by adhering to the constitution and the law. The citizens' dignity and prosperity was a means and an end. The continuation of the commitment to the struggle was also a means and an end.

We are now here in the people's assembly. In the name of democracy and to uphold the right of the Arab man to peace and prosperity, we are holding our second joint conference. This conference represents a historic and unique event in the procession of liberation and construction. This procession is making headway for the sake of a real and authentic solidarity and for the sake of a lofty unity to be built by an openminded and developed strategy and to be developed by well-thought-out scientific planning so that political, economic and legislative integration can be achieved as a means for progress and prosperity.

Therefore, I call upon you that we should together arouse all the enthusiasm possible so that all the studies which have been carried out by the specialized committees in the domains of economic cooperation, planning, public services and legislation will mark the beginning of fruitful and serious work. As the years pass, this work will remove all obstacles and restrictions. It will also provide the people of the Valley of the Nile with all the practical and actual potential to enable the mission of unity to forge ahead as the most splendid model of the Arab will. At the same time, this Arab will will confront all challenges for the sake of freedom, democracy, peace and prosperity.

I was happy to hear from Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil after his return from Khartoum that it was possible through joint efforts to find solutions to the problems which stood in the way of the speedy implementation of important projects. [applause] My brother President Ja'far, Mr chairman of the conference, brother and sister representatives of the people of Egypt and Sudan, we have come to you at a time when events are hot on our Arab land and also on our African land. The eyes of all the influential areas in the world are focused on this part of the world, where numerous and various forces--forces with ambitions, objectives and also great resources--are battling. Before I embark on an analytical review of what is going on around us, I tell you that no matter what resources are utilized for maneuvers and plots in this part of the world, our strong free will will not abandon its sacred mission and will not aline itself with any power that wants us to be subservient or that applies to us its ambitions of domination and hegemony. This is our sacred revolutionary commitment--we the sons of the revolutions of 23 July and 25 May. [applause]

In the past, Egypt got rid of the Soviet military presence with a stroke of the pen. [applause] At that time our relations with the United States were at their worst. The American White House was amazed at the time because we did not contact them secretly before making this decision. Perhaps they did not realize, not until after the immortal October War, that all our decisions stem from our free will [applause] and are prompted by national interests and unshaken faith in our full right to determine our own fate: we, not others, with our blood, not with the forces of others; with our dignity, which rejects subservience, and with our pride that prevents us from becoming tools in the hands of others. [applause]

We do not want anyone to fight our battles for us and we have not asked anyone nor will we ever ask anyone to fight our battles for us. This is not something new we say today to cover up any position or stand. I frequently told the Soviet leaders in the capital of their country when we were urging them to shoulder the responsibility and sell us arms to face the U.S. weapons which were pouring into Israel--I told them in their own capital as they dilly-dallied in honoring their responsibilities and tried to keep up in a state of no war, no peace, and also as they agreed behind our backs with the United States to maintain the state of military relaxation in the area, I told them in all frankness: We do not want from you one single Soviet soldier to fight our battle for us, because the land is ours and it is us who fight, give our blood and go into martyrdom with our faces bright and our heads held high. [applause]

While we do not ask any force to fight our battles for us, we do request that the rich state discharge their responsibility toward the fate of the world in order that the necessary and required balance be established by economically contributing toward the rebirth of the peoples of the Third World. Old colonialism drained these peoples of their wealth, plundered their resources and paralysed their steps toward development and progress for a long time. This is the responsibility of the great powers and we are asking them to carry out this responsibility.

If the present state of affairs continues without the industrial states adopting a vigilant and long-term outlook, then the disturbance to existing balances will sweep them before it sweeps us. Therefore, I declare that I will ask the United States, West Germany and Japan to participate in our investments for progress. We welcome the participation of any of the wealthy Arab states in this. If they wish otherwise, we will still remain grateful for their past efforts. [applause]

This is why we have also sought to break up the arms monopoly. We have asked the United States to sell arms to us to enable us to discharge our duty in defending the Arab right and African right against the plots of expansion and domination which are directed against us in the Arab and African areas. We will never hesitate to respond to any call by any Arab or African state if exposed to an expansionist plot to swallow its land of rights or to dominate its regime and fate. [applause]

This is your responsibility, brothers and sisters. Fate has willed this for us because of our civilized and geographical position and because of our manpower. We must always raise the banners of liberation. We must always defend the right to self-determination. We are not fabricating a leadership role because, in history, this role is one of responsibility based on blood and sacrifices of livelihood and lives on the land of Sinai [applause] where Egyptian blood is permanently mixed with the Sudanese blood. Nor are we fabricating a historic role because history is not based on empty appeals, false allegations or deceptive slogans. History is the inevitable leading role played by those who make history.

We do not seek to become the guardians of anybody because we do not accept and will not accept anybody's guardianship. On the contrary, we are making the greatest sacrifices in order to resist anyone who wants to impose such guardianship. This is why the position of your brothers in Egypt in the peace negotiations was clear and firm, because the peace treaty between us and Israel has not and will never overshadow our responsibility to defend any Arab or African land threatened by the crime of aggression.

I declare from here, from the People's Assembly in our capital--the capital of the peoples of the Nile Valley--to all concerned that Sudan's borders are the borders of Egypt. [applause] Sudan's borders are the borders of Egypt. We consider any aggression against Sudan as an aggression against Egypt in the first place. I declare to all concerned that any attempt to undermine Sudan's independence, its sovereignty over its soil of its right for its own regime, constitution and leadership will be considered as a direct aggression against Egypt's independence and sovereignty. [applause] Brother President Ja'far, chairman of the conference, brothers and sisters: For the sake of this and in the name of the principal prerequisites of the responsibilities of destiny, we will resist all attempts aimed at fragmenting Arab solidarity and at striking us from behind.

Egypt, your Egypt, will never be isolated. Egypt will never be isolated from exercising its pan-Arab and historic responsibilities, no matter how many burdens we have to shoulder. The will of Egypt will never be sought by enticements or threats. All this clamor, shouting and saber-rattling being raised by some Arab information media and by a certain foreign information media known to you will only be a powerless tempest in a broken teacup. [laughter and applause]

Our pan-Arab rights are above all outbidding and bargaining. Preserving these rights is a fateful commitment. Billions cannot buy our national dignity on the soil of our valley--its north and south. [applause] This is the achievement which we have made through our actions, blood and sacrifices in the immortal October War. In a prominent book, an eminent world author has rightly described this war as the October revolution which reversed military criteria and at the same time transferred to the Arab homeland wealth and hegemony over the world economy.

We are proud of the blood of our sons in the north and south of the valley. This blood mingled there, on the land of Sinai, to achieve these victories for the Arab homeland. These victories lie in the fact that the international economic center of gravity has moved to the Arab homeland and that the West should learn about this homeland through prominent Western writers.

We regret today that there are some people who would reject peace if this peace is achieved by Egypt. However, we say daily: Egypt accepts peace and welcomes peace if achieved by any Arab state. [applause]

Our positions do not stem from a vacuum based on complexes of backwardness, inability and mistakes. On the contrary, we have done our best to bolster the Arab rights through an Arab position and an Arab alertness capable of coordinating the roles, dividing responsibilities and soundly understanding the challenges of every phase. As I told you at the beginning of my speech, we have chosen this difficult path together. We have exerted great efforts to prevent Arab hands from directing the missiles of death and destruction to Arab hearts.

We have often asked all the covetous ones to keep their hands off Lebanon. We have often warned about the serious situation in this cherished Arab country. The result was destruction, devastation and victims among Christians, Muslims and Palestinians who were killed by Arab bullets on Arab land. We would have liked the salvation of Lebanon and the pinpointing of the responsibility for subversion and destruction throughout Lebanon to be the topic of Arab discussions and Arab decisions, but meetings convened and adjourned without one word, statement or decision about the deteriorating situation in Lebanon. Who finances this savage destruction which has taken all these Arab lives in Lebanon? Who is behind these black events? In whose interest is what has happened and is happening in Lebanon? These are direct and clear questions. All the Arab leaderships are called upon to shoulder their responsibilities so that we may protect Lebanon against becoming an easy prey to the ambitions of expansion, domination and division.

The scenes of the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon are not far from our sight. Each of us knows what has taken place both at the scene of the events and behind the scenes. To make the facts of history better understood, I declare from this platform that Egypt did not hesitate for one moment to carry out its role directly as soon as the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon began. The direct and quick contacts between Cairo and the White House in Washington did not stop. The result was that U.S. President Carter demanded that the aggression be stopped at once through a resolution by the Security Council providing for the dispatch of the UN emergency forces to take up positions and implement the withdrawal resolution in 24 hours. The Government of Lebanon is aware of the role Egypt played.

Brothers and sisters, there is no need for me to review our role and the way we have discharged our responsibilities. However, I go on record here as saying that the Arab situation is in need of a reawakening and rethinking. It is not wise to disregard what is taking place around us or to ignore the dangers threatening the Arab nation; nor is it wise to adopt varied methods in the confrontation. It is neither reasonable nor acceptable that our affairs should be politicized to the point that the crime of assassination by one Arab state against the head of a fraternal Arab state is blessed, as happened at a recent Arab meeting.

In the name of our two revolutions and in the name of our respect for our national responsibility, I warn any hands which are now working secretly to realize ambitions in the Horn of Africa area, the gulf area or in any other position by exploiting the events which are now taking place in areas near to us or around us. If some believe that they can prepare the atmosphere for any foreign domination of any Arab position or for any aggression against the right of any Arab people in their land and wealth, then we say with determination and confidence that such a situation is not acceptable and will not be acceptable by us in Egypt and Sudan. We are following with extreme attention what has taken place around us.

We are following this with open eyes and conscientious awareness linking all threads and detecting the realities of the forces impelling bloody challenges to surround the free peoples who refuse to squander their fate, sovereignty and rights on their land. We are following up the enormous events taking place around us, committed to our Arab and African policy. We will always be in the service of our principles and aims, and we are prepared to assist in the amount which any fraternal or friendly people want or will be satisfied with.

We do not interfere in the domestic affairs of anybody, nor do we impose our role on anybody. We are the sincere brother who rises for the rescue of his brother. We are the brother who does not run away or avoid [his responsibilities] in time of difficulties and hardships. We will not hesitate to help a people defending their creed, land or wealth.

We do not adopt these stands toward the Soviet Union in its capacity as a superpower in order to aline ourselves with a great state, the United States. In all this, we will not bend and will not become a tool for any great power. We have had our experiences in Egypt and Sudan with the Soviet Union. We have had bitter and hard experiences with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is now concocting plots in the dark, not in order that the Arab land may be liberated or that the Palestinian rights be restored to the Palestinian people, but to create axes, create disturbances and threaten stability in the area. After this, the Soviet Union sees no harm in issuing the statements emphasizing the rights of Arabs. These statements are no longer worth the price of the news mentioned in them. The Soviet Union is now mobilizing all its resources and agents to surround the Arab area.

From this place, I declare once again to the whole world that we are aware of and prepared to confront all these plots. We will not seek in this the defense or guardianship of the United States. The Egyptian will has abolished this method since the dawn of 23 July and the Sudanese will has also abolished it since the dawn of 25 May. [applause] We do not seek nor will we seek any foreign military presence on our land. We are prepared to confront all challenges.

We are not talking haphazardly. We practiced the great experiment during the Ramadan October 1973 battle, when, among other things, our sons faced the cultural and technological challenges and proved to friend and foe alike that the Arab man in Egypt and Sudan is capable of and has all the inborn prerequisites for dealing with the strongest challenges of the age.

After the immortal October War we freed ourselves of all the complexes through which the feverish propaganda tried to invade the soul before it invaded the land. They tried to instill despair in us, perpetuate the state of defeat and end all hope of freedom and dignity. It is a matter of sorrow and grief that Arab leaders and Arab pens shared and are still sharing in spreading this spirit--the spirit of defeat. All this was destroyed by the performance of our sons in the great October War.

Today we deal from a position of strength. Thank God we have the upper hand. We speak the language of the age and work with the methods of the age based on confidence and study. Therefore, there is no place in the Arab land for tardiness, inability or ignorance that wants the Arab nation to freeze in its place or turn its head backward or stop hoping for peace and prosperity.

We do not call for peace because we are afraid of war. We are the ones who struggled, fought, sacrificed and destroyed myths. But we call for peace because we are not advocates of destruction and bloodshed. There is no victor or vanquished in war. Ruin and death afflict both the victor and the vanquished. This is the great meaning and the highest aim. We must free ourselves from the complexes of the past and from the backwardness; inability and hatred from which we suffered.

We have taken control of our affairs, brothers and sisters, and we are not ready, in an issue of destiny, to hand over leadership to anyone, whether he represents a big or a small power. The decision of the millions regarding peace and prosperity will not be a toy in the hands of foreign or regional ambitions. The decision of the millions regarding peace and prosperity will not be placed in the hands of whims, ambition or polarization. I say and repeat that only the sons of Egypt can be the masters of its decisions. The decision of Egypt is the decision of the people of Egypt just as the decision of Sudan is the decision of the people of Sudan. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, representatives of the people of Egypt and Sudan, the people of Egypt open their hearts with love and purity and extend their hands with sweat, work and faith to all the people of the Arab nation who are conscious of their destiny, who are strong in their awareness and who defend their freedom. The people of Egypt, whose representatives are meeting today in their second capital, present with their brothers, the people of Sudan, the best exmaple of what ties and intentions between the brothers in land and the brothers in fate must be.

This second historic conference on the path of integration and toward genuine popular unity calls every sincere Arab voice, appeals to every honest Arab effort and invites every struggling Arab force to play their role in protecting the Arab arena from the venom of lust and whims. There is nothing more splendid in the history of our struggle than for everyone to participate today with pure hearts, clean hands, free will and honest intentions in the race for peace and prosperity for the millions.

It was our important fate, brothers and sisters, that we should suffer through the events of a great birth--the birth of an Arab will that is free of fear, lack of confidence and shortsightedness. The great birth involves great pains, but the pains make our hopes great. Our hopes will not recede or disappear because we will not run away or escape either from our burdens or from our sufferings. God willing, we will concentrate in our valley all the powers we have gained through our suffering and our powers of creativity and inventiveness.

We will release all the powers of goodness, love and building on the land of this generous valley. This is our great fate, and this is our great path--a fate that calls on us to give man his due and to put man on a path that leads us to peace and prosperity for mankind. Man has a right to freedom to make his decision and to choose his fate. This is the path we have all chosen through our democracy. The peace of man is represented in love and brotherhood. The prosperity of man is represented in good deeds under principles of justice and virtue. Anyone who does not have principles cannot be trusted. [applause] Anyone who does not have virtues will go astray and slip into sin. Anyone who thinks that political work is contrary to moral work is mistaken. Political work is mostly directed toward the hopes of the weary, the dreams of the overworked and the pains of the toiling people. It is the struggle of us all for the right to a more honorable and better life.

For this reason we have said and still say that democracy is moral behavior. Democracy is the heartbeat of life for the esteem and dignity of man.

My brother President Ja'far, Mr Chairman of the conference, brothers and sisters, my uncles and cousins [ya hkali uwald al-khal] [applause]: This important democratic popular gathering which we are attending today with the will of 60 million sons of the Nile Valley calls on all men, shakes all hands, appeals to every honest working man and calls on all believers in justice and freedom to bless its field, share its work and see its aim. Our field of work is for one nation and our position stems from the fact that we are related by blood. Our aim is a free and honorable life on our free and honorable land.

"Our Lord, we have heard the call of one calling us to faith. 'Believe ye in the Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord, forgive us our sins, blot out from us iniquities and take to Thyself our souls in the company of the righteous.

"Our Lord, grant us what Thou didst promise unto us through Thine apostles, and save us from shame on the day of judgment, for Thou never breakest Thy promise." [passages in quotes are Koranic]

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

AS-SADAT LEAVES KHARTOUM FOR ASWAN 21 JANUARY

NC210940 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0926 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Khartoum, 21 January--President Anwar as-Sadat left Khartoum this morning for Aswan after attending the opening session of the joint conference of the people of the Nile Valley in the Sudanese capital yesterday.

KATYUSHA ATTACK ON QIRYAT SHEMONA REPORTED

TA191607 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, reports that a few minutes ago several Katyusha rockets were fired at Qiryat Shemona. There is no information yet about the injured. The inhabitants are in the shelters. Our correspondent reports further that there has been an alert during the day in the northern settlements in the event of a terrorist reaction to the IDF action last night against two of their bases north of the Litani.

Further Details

TA191729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Several Katyusha rockets fell on the Galilee finger area today. A father and his son were lightly injured, damages were slight and the inhabitants are now in the shelters. Our correspondents report that one rocket was fired close to 1600 [GMT] and a second one about 30 minutes later. All the emergency services are in a state of alert. Studies in the schools and kindergartens have been canceled.

21 Jan Shelling

NC210830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] A number of Katyusha rockets were fired this morning from Lebanese territory at settlements in the Hula Valley. There were no casualties and no damages were sustained. An air raid siren was sounded in the settlements and members of these settlements are now in the shelters.

Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, says that settlements in the northern border area have been put on alert for fear that the shelling would recur.

Last night, the terrorists fired with field guns, mortars and machineguns at the Christian villages in the enclave north of Metulla. The Christian militias returned the fire. The exchanges lasted about 5 hours.

Our correspondent notes that the terrorists fired at the Christian villages from their positions in Armun and Al 'Ayshiyah which were raided by the IDF last week.

IDF To Stop Shelling

TA211734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The commander of the northern command, Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal, met this afternoon with representatives of the northern settlements and declared that the IDF would act to put an end to the firing of Katyushas at our settlements. This afternoon Major General Ben-Gal visited Qiryat Shemona and other settlements in upper Galilee that were shelled twice today by terrorist Katyushas, and he studied the situation there.

Firing From Lebanon 22 Jan

TA220713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Jan 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] There were intermittent exchanges of fire [in southern Lebanon] during the night between the militia forces in the enclave and the terrorists. Our correspondent Yehezqel Hame'iri reports.

[Hame'iri--live or recorded] Last night's exchanges of fire were sparse and there have been no reports of casualties among the militia forces or the villagers. The fire was concentrated at the enclave north of Metulla, particularly at the villages of Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qulay'ah. During the early hours of the night the terrorists started firing heavily at the enclave villages and the militia positions, but in the later hours of the night, the fire died down. From time to time single salvos were fired to make a disturbance. The terrorists repeatedly fired both from their positions in the Beaufort Fortress and from positions in Arnun and Al-'Ayshiyah, which were hit by the IDF at the end of last week.

The militia forces returned fire at the terrorist positions, also firing flares from time to time. The militias concentrated their firing mainly at the beaufort fortress which is well defended by the terrorists.

During the night the commanders of the militias repeated their accusations against the commanders of UNIFIL in southern Lebanon, saying that they have ignored the terrorists' attacks and maybe even collaborated with the latest attacks. This accusation comes from the fact that there is a unit of UN observers in the Beaufort Fortress for the ostensible purpose of security and observation, while under their very noses the terrorists are using their weapons against the enclave villages; these weapons include light and heavy weapons, including automatic weapons, howitzers and artillery.

In the northern border settlements the alert continues for the time being, but life has returned to normal and studies will be held this morning as normal in all educational institutions.

WEIZMAN, EYTAN COMMENT ON IDF ACTION IN LEBANON

TA192119 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpts] We saw shots of the destruction in the terrorist bases in Lebanon at the beginning of the program. The attackers returned from Lebanon at dawn. They were units from Golani [infantry] and the paratroopers who attacked positions and artillery batteries of the terrorist organizations during the night. Between 20 and 30 terrorists were killed in the action. The Israeli force sustained one injury. One terrorist was captured by our forces. While the action was at its height, naval vessels fired on terrorist objectives on the Lebanese coast. The IDF artillery also fired several times during the night at the terrorists' sources of fire. This morning, as stated, the attacking forces returned to the Israeli border and on their return they were met by our military correspondent 'Amiran Nir.

[Begin videotape] [Nir] The importance of the operation today, in the eyes of its planners, was very well demonstrated by the presence of the minister of defense, the chief of staff and the commander of the northern command. More than the other actions in Lebanon since the Litani campaign--even if this was not its main intention--today's action also has considerable political importance and each of the military personnel sitting here will understand this. But this forum [shots of debriefing of senior officers] is dealing with the pure military analysis of the specific military target.

And these are the conclusions in dry statistics: between 20-30 terrorists killed; 1 prisoner; 9 command and storage buildings destroyed; 2 artillery pieces and 1 howitzer destroyed; stores of ammunition, equipment, bunkers and positions blown up. This is the data and this is the evaluation.

['Ezer Weizman] You never declare something [word indistinct, background noise] you understand that there is something much more efficient and better. This is an action about which the chief of staff, of course, can go into detail better than I can, an action which succeeded in the tasks we set and is part of a long chain of actions and the whole open war against the terrorists.

[Refa'el Eytan] This action was unusual in its form and in its success. I define this action as having been very successful and a skilled, very skilled operation, very professional--all the objectives were achieved but don't think that it is the end of the activity against the terrorists. On the contrary; this is one action in a chain of actions which will take place using all the methods we see fit to use and any place we see fit.

[Nir] You said that the action was unusual in its form. What does this mean?

[Eytan] In the way the forces were sent to the targets; in the topographical difficulties which had to be overcome; in the extraordinary coordination between all the forces; and, of course, in the surprise, in the precision, in the coordination between the different groups which had a share in the action.

[Nir] Mr Minister, in this action, in fact, the IDF jumped over UNIFIL or what UNIFIL claims is a part of its territory. Does this mean it will take over some of UNIFIL's territory?

[Weizman] No, this is not so. It is an expression of the IDF's ability to strike at any time, anywhere it sees fit, where there is danger to the State of Israel.

[Eytan] UNIFIL is doing its best, but its ability is limited. We acted outside the UNIFIL territory and searched for the terrorists and found them and we will do this wherever they are, whether it is on this or the other side of the Litani.

[Nir] Mr Minister, 3 days ago the prime minister of Egypt, Mustafa Khalil, warned us not to provoke the Syrian flank in Lebanon, not to harm the Syrian soldiers in Lebanon. This action provoked the foundations of the Syrian force a little....

[Weizman] Just a minute. He did not say we should not provoke the Syrians. He did not speak in such terms. He said what he said and we did what we did. I still hope, despite the developments of last year, that with all these actions and all of Khalil's remarks, we will still come to a settlement with the Egyptians.

[Nir] Don't you regard the peace negotiations as binding our hands in this security field?

[Weizman] There is no connection. We also bound ourselves in certain things even before the peace negotiations began. And so Mustafa Khalil said what he said, we did what we did and I hope that, nevertheless, the contacts with the Egyptians will continue.

FORD ARRIVES IN ISRAEL, MAKES AIRPORT STATEMENT

NC211504 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Report from Ben-Gurion Airport on arrival of former U.S. President Gerald Ford by reporter Shim'on Ayalon--live]

[Text] I am at Ben-Gurion airport and Gerald Ford has just arrived here, given a very brief statement of welcome, and now he's on his way to Jerusalem. He was greeted here by former Israeli President Efrayim Katzir, and a few words of welcome from Shmu'el Tamir, a minister in Mr Begin's Cabinet. For what Mr Ford said, we'll let you hear that now.

[Begin recording] Members of the government, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. Mrs Ford and I are greatly honored and we consider it a very high privilege to come to Israel. We have long sought the opportunity to visit your country. We are anxious to come and visit Israel, first because of the longstanding friendship between my country and Israel; and secondly because Mrs Ford and I have many, many close personal friends here in Israel--with several of whom I had the opportunity to renew their acquaintance as we arrived in Tel Aviv on this occasion.

Let me assure you that Mrs Ford and I believe very strongly that Israel is a beautiful country; Israel is a country of strong people; Israel is one of the democratic bastions out of some 150 nations throughout the world. I am proud of my longstanding support for principles for which Israel stands, and I'm looking forward in the next few days, Mr Minister, to having the opportunity of meeting with Prime Minister Begin and others in the government.

I come as a private citizen, but I come as an individual whose record, I believe, indicates a desire on my part to help in any way I can to make constructive headways in the long controversial difficulties here in the Middle East. We seek peace with security; peace with justice. And if I as a private citizen can find in any way that I can be helpful in an unofficial way, you can rest assured that I will do all that I possibly can.

I thank you for the warm welcome despite the weather. But let me assure, Mr Minister, we can do no better in the United States; and it's a little colder and a little chillier. So it's nice to be here. And I thank you for your hospitality and your very cordial greeting on this occasion. [end recording]

CABINET ADOPTS DECISION ON PEACE TREATY, NO DETAILS RELEASED

TA211408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The Cabinet has adopted a series of decisions on issues concerning the peace treaty but, for the time being, it is not making them public. Our political correspondent Shalom Qital reports that the prime minister made these remarks about an hour ago at the conclusion of the Cabinet meeting in which the prime minister and the foreign minister reported on the talks with U.S. special Ambassador Alfred Atherton. Mr Atherton will inform Cairo of these decisions.

In another hour Atherton will again meet with the Israeli team and will also have more talks with the prime minister. Our correspondent says that it has not yet been decided if there will be a meeting or only a telephone conversation.

At today's Cabinet meeting the defense minister also gave a report on the IDF's action in Lebanon.

BEGIN CONFERS WITH AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

TA191234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin received special U.S. envoy Alfred Atherton for a talk at noon today and later he said that at the meeting several ideas connected with the signing of the peace agreement with Egypt had been broached. Begin stressed that the ideas that had been discussed have not yet been consolidated. They will be submitted for a discussion by the Cabinet on Sunday, when it will make its decision.

Our political correspondent Shalom Qital says that Ambassador Atherton is likely to make a report to Washington now and to consult with the leaders of the administration. On Sunday he will apparently meet again with the Israeli team headed by Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar.

Atherton and his aides will depart for Cairo at the beginning of next week.

Atherton, Begin Comments

TA192029 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Ninety-nine percent of the agreement has been achieved, President Carter said this week, but it appears that the remaining 1 percent is being prevented by abnormal obstinacy. Ambassador Alfred Atherton--Roy, as his Israeli interlocutor Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar calls him--did not succeed this week in bridging the gap between the Israeli and Egyptian positions. Atherton met with the prime minister today and on Sunday. The results of this week's talks will be brought to the Cabinet session. Our political correspondent says that the gap remains, and this means the two articles concerning the reexamination of the security measures in Sinai after signing a treaty and the treaty's priority over other agreements. Here is our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, on today's meetings:

[Ram--live in studio] The gaps were not bridged even on the third day of the talks. The difficulties revealed last night, at the end of the second day of the deliberations, the activity during the night and this morning's meeting which lasted for 2 hours did not bear fruit. The meeting at the prime minister's office was aimed, as far as can be seen, at focusing on the unresolved issues. The legal solutions and their principles, which were put forward by Ambassador Atherton and State Department legal advisor Herbert Hansell, were not acceptable to the Israeli team. It is almost certain that they did not win any more positive reaction from the prime minister and the foreign minister. After about 90 minutes, special Ambassador Alfred Atherton said to the correspondents:

[Begin videotape] [Atherton--in English] We met again this morning with the Israeli negotiating team and continued to discuss the three issues that we have been discussing, including further discussions of the suggestions that the United States side has put forward. We subsequently had a very good talk with the prime minister, during which we reviewed the status of the talks so far and some other issues of interest in the area. I plan to be meeting again with the Israeli team after Shabbat to continue these discussions. Thank you very much.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] Are you discussing the chance for a summit?

[Atherton--in English] No, we are not talking about a summit, we are talking about the precise issues in the negotiations. I don't believe there is anything I can add to what the President and what our spokesman in Washington have said on that subject. There have been no developments in that regard since then.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] After 3 days of talks, are you optimistic?

[Atherton--in English] Oh, I am not going to get into the business of being optimistic or pessimistic. This might be a good occasion to say what I have said on many other times when I have been asked that questions and I would like to quote what one of our very senior officials once said, Mr George Ball, when he was negotiating the Cyprus problem, as he came out of a meeting with one of the leaders on Cyprus and was asked if he was an optimist or a pessimist and he said, I am neither an optimist nor a pessimist, I am a diplomat. [end videotape]

[Ram] Well, Atherton, as an experienced diplomat, is neither optimistic, nor is he pessimistic. In order to conclude the talks, he is waiting for a reaction from the U.S. State Department to his reports. The prime minister, who did not take part in the talks, met twice with the U.S. ambassador; the next moves, it appears, must be made after the Cabinet gives its opinion on what has been achieved or has not been achieved in the talks.

[Begin videotape] [Begin] In the talks between the U.S. team and the Israeli team, ideas were put forward connected with the negotiations over the signing of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Matters have not yet been crystallized and all these ideas will be brought for discussion by the Cabinet, in accordance with its decision.

[Ram] How would you define the talks over the last 3 days?

[Begin] They were talks in which the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed. As I said before, we exchanged views and ideas were put forward. Therefore I think that we can say that all this has been positive.

[Ram] Do you think that it will be possible to arrive at formulations that will be acceptable to both us, the United States and Egypt, sir?

[Begin] My dear friend, I will not put forward assumptions. As is known, there are problems because of the demands submitted by Egypt regarding the peace treaty and we are clarifying this matter and we must not assume anything. [end videotape]

[Bam] It is doubtful whether the talks will give birth, as the United States had hoped, to deliberations on the ministerial level. And if we examine the latest statements by President Carter, it is possible that, despite what he wants, he will have to convene a summit conference in order to get the negotiations moving again.

Cabinet Discussion

NC210655 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] The Cabinet is meeting this morning to hear a report on the negotiations with the U.S. envoy, Alfred Atherton.

At a meeting late last night, Atherton presented the Israeli negotiating team, headed by Dr Ben-Elisar, with clarifications from Washington regarding the proposals he, Atherton, made in the course of the week to enable the resumption of the negotiations with Egypt.

DAYAN SAYS HE STILL CONSIDERS HIMSELF A 'LABORITE

TA191129 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 p 4 Weekend Supplement TA

[By Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] "I still regard myself as an 'Israeli laborite' and my being a member of the Likud Cabinet since its establishment has not changed my social views even one bit," Moshe Dayan said recently in reply to a question raised by friends interested in knowing how his membership in the Cabinet for 18 months has affected him.

Dayan added that he does not feel less of a "laborite" than several members of the Labor Party leadership. He is not influenced by Begin's words on Jabotinsky's philosophy and he prefers to quote Berl Katzenelson's theory as he has several times, even in the not-so-distant past.

The foreign minister says he is concentrating on one central issue, and that is the advancement of the peace process. "It is interesting and it keeps me busy," he said.

Dayan expressed his regret over the fact that only a few members of the Labor Party find it appropriate to stay in contact with him, but he says there is nothing he can do about it. Dayan praised Yitzhaq Rabin's statements on foreign and security affairs.

Later in the conversation, it transpired that Dayan was very much interested in the subject of Israel's relations with the Diaspora. If he gets a chance, he said, he will be prepared to devote time and energy to this issue. He said that at the time Mr Bar-on and Mrs Yaglom proposed him, with his consent, for the presidency of the Zionist Organization, he made the condition that this be acceptable to all the Zionist parties as well as to the chairman of Zionist Organization executive, Arye Dulzin. This proves how much the issue of the Jews in the Diaspora should, in his opinion, be a central issue in Israel.

PERES LEAVES ON MYSTERIOUS TRIP TO CANADA

TA211500 Tel Aviv Ma'Ariv in Hebrew 21 Jan 79 p 4 TA

[By M. Shmaryahu]

[Text] Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres left the country this weekend on an unidentified 48-hour mission.

Peres left on an El Al plane bound for New York, and Labor Party spokesman Yosi Beylin said that he was on a private visit to Canada decided upon at the last moment. People close to Peres pointed out that it is not impossible that Peres is on a political mission involving a meeting with an important personality but not with the leader of an Arab state. MK Peres will be returning to Israel tomorrow.

MOSHE ARENS ON WITHDRAWAL, U.S. ATTITUDES

TA191553 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1425 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] A concesssion of the oilfields in Et Tur, the Jiddi and Mitla passes, the air force and naval bases in Sharm ash-Shaykh and the strip which includes the Rafah approaches, 'Eytan and 'Ezyon, would be very dangerous, even beyond what is reasonable and it would be preferable not to concede things which could endanger us. This was stated by the Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, MK Moshe Arens, in a lecture he gave today to the Engineers Club in Tel Aviv.

Arens recalled what had happened to the U.S. relations with Taiwan, when a reevaluation of the situation dictated that the U.S. administration abandon Taiwan and establish diplomatic relations with the Peoples' Republic of China, without taking previous commitments into consideration. In the view of the lecturer, Israel must also adopt the same approach for itself concerning the negotiations with Egypt, with a willingness to change direction as needed. He pointed out that there had been a noticeable change in the format of the negotiations with Egypt. In his view, the negotiations began in Jerusalem, continued in Cairo, returned to Jerusalem for a certain length of time and were between Egypt and Israel. Afterward the talks moved across the sea and the United States gradually became a full partner.

The chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee is convinced that direct negotiations would be preferable, since what brought As-Sadat to Jerusalem was his assumption that he did not yet have a secure military option and also that a government headed by Begin, including Dayan, Weizman and Sharon, could surprise him and try to settle accounts with him over the Yom Kippur War. As-Sadat also thought that Mr Begin's government was not under any pressure from the United States. "Had As-Sadat not thought this way he would not have come to Jerusalem, but would have gone to Washington or Geneva," the lecturer said.

Later Mr Arens said that one of the mistakes made by the U.S. Administration was that it was not an honest mediator and sometimes it took an open and aggressive position at Egypt's side. Because of this, As-Sadat knows that there will be pressure and it will also be effective. At first, the people connected with the negotiations thought that As-Sadat was prepared to cut himself off from the Arab campaign against Israel. But today this is not our evaluation. The Egyptians are not concealing the fact that as soon as the peace treaty is signed, a campaign will begin for Judaea and Samaria and the future of Jerusalem. What is occurring in Iran today also makes it plain that in totalitarian Moslem countries extremist groups may bring about revolutions and nobody knows what will happen in another few years in Riyadh or Cairo. "We must be completely aware of what may happen to a man with whom we are signing a peace treaty, since it is possible that he will change his views or that in some time to come he will not be in power," he said.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT INTERVIEWS CHIEF OF STAFF

TA191322 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 pp 1, 2, 19 Weekend Supplement TA

[Interview with Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat, Eytan Haber and Moshe Vardi in the chief of staff's office in Tel Aviv--time not given]

[Excerpts] Early in the afternoon the chief of staff's office is as busy as a beehive: officers come in a hurry, others go in with members of their family for a few minutes to receive their new ranks, the tea cart comes loaded with biscuits and moves from one room to another, between the chief of staff's office and the secretaries' office; the telephones are ringing. Activity seems to be measured by the minute only. There is no time.

The chief of staff himself is calm and peaceful. Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan entered into office in the middle of April, 1978, and since then his personal mark could be felt in quite a few areas in the army. There is no doubt that "Raful" [Eytan's nickname] has introduced a new style into the IDF: Simpler, perhaps a little coarse, but very much to the point. Unlike his image of a tough man--the image portrayed by the press--he is soft and sensitive and says quite a few things with real pain, with sincere concern. Raful, the man of the land, in his first interview with the Israeli press that is not attended by IDF spokesman Col Yitzhaq Golan, chief censor Col Yitzhaq Shani and the head of the Chief of Staff's Office, Lt Col Ilan Biran.

The interviewers are: Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat, Eytan Haber and Moshe Vardi.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: What is the IDF's current operations plan? Are your orders to your subordinates to prepare for war or peace?

Raful: First of all, we are always preparing for war. We have constantly been at war. What is characteristic is that there are breaks between the wars. Sometimes they are longer, sometimes they are shorter. But in the Israeli way of life, the characteristic is not peace but, rather, war. Denmark, for example, would have said that terrorist infiltrations along its border with Norway constitute war.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Do you believe that another war between us and the Arabs will break out?

Raful: I must be prepared for such a possibility now. All of a sudden the phone rings and I am told: that is it, the Iraqi Army has moved; the Jordanians have moved to the right; and the Syrians have moved to the left, and I have to mobilize the army.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Mr chief of staff, are you prepared for this today?

Raful: Yes!

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: But still, we are nearing the possibility of peace. Are the IDF plans constructed in such a way that there are plans both for peace and for war?

Raful: No!

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: What is the basic assumption that lies behind the IDF's operational plan for the next year?

Raful: The basic assumption of the operations plan is that a war might break out, because it is always at the threshold. Ironically, this is the most certain assumption and the most promising one. That is, we are preparing for the worst situation possible, for war. The operations plan which must be prepared for the worst situation says: the Army must be prepared to move from an inactive state to a state of war in the quickest, best, most modern, best trained and best equipped way with the greatest supplies. This is precisely what we are preparing for in the operational plan. Now, if there is no war, then no harm was done. If there is one, however, we have prepared for it.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: But if there is no war, it is necessary to build new airports. Is this included in that same operations plan?

Raful: We have built airports in times of emergency as well. However, if I am told that it is more certain that we will have tension in 1979, I will say: if this is so, then we are not evacuating the Sinai. At such times I do not need another airfield.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Mr chief of staff, we are still under the trauma of the Yom Kippur war surprise. Can this happen again?

Raful: There was no surprise on Yom Kippur: We knew a war was going to break out, but what should have been done was not done. It is said that it was a surprise, but this is not true! If we had reached the right conclusions, and if we had drafted the forces on Friday two things could have happened: either the war would not have borken out because the Arabs would have said: "Just a minute, the Jews know, let us postpone it by 2 weeks." The other alternative could have been that they would have gone to war as planned, because everyone had been sent to the front, because everything was ready and the time was set. Then they would have been stopped after 5 hours, they would not have crossed the canal and would have caused us no damages; neither would they have brought about the Middle East upheaval.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Today, are we prepared in such a way; have the right conclusions been reached?

Raful: If I tell you "yes," I may sound too self-confident. Then my answer will only be proven in retrospect and then we will know if my actions were right.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: We want to sleep quietly...

Raful: You may sleep quietly: but there are other things which would have caused me, if I were you, not to sleep quietly.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Such as?

Raful: Problems of the society, the economy, the immigration and the emigration. This is what should not have let you sleep quietly! I say this as a citizen. I am the chief of staff, but I am also a citizen. I live in this country. I do not live in the Philippines and I did not come here for a few years to do my military service. This concerns me no less than the Arab issue.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Let us, with your permission, proceed to another field. Are the Egyptians still enemies and, if there is peace, would you still consider them enemies?

Raful: We must be prepared that any country with which we have a common border might change its mind; varying forms of pressure might be exerted. I still do not see the Egyptians valuing the agreement with us over those with others. I do not know, for instance, what kinds of interpretations they might give to possible hostilities on the Golan Heights. They will say: "One moment, you started it!" And then the agreement will not be binding, even though the Syrians began [the hostilities].

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: As chief of staff, what do you learn from the recent events in Iran?

Raful: If I don't look out for myself, who will? This is the way things have been, are now, and will be forever. Like in the past, so in the future we must rely only on our own power and any foreign force is bound to prove to be a hollow reed in times of need. In a world whose existence rests only on interests, we have our own interests, too--to live without relying on others. We shall be our own masters.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Half a year after the Litani operation, what is the framework of relationship that has been created in southern Lebanon between ourselves and the Christian forces, the United Nations, the terrorists?

Raful: This framework is still being created; it is not finished. There is UNIFIL, terrorists, Christians and ourselves. Each party does its best to safeguard its interests and work toward attaining them. Sometimes, and in fact quite often, their interests are contradictory. Each party tries to do what is best for it in its own area, taking into account some consideration of the others' interests. We are in favor of UNIFIL and the terrorists are against everyone.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Is there cooperation between the United Nations and the terrorists?

Raful: I am not saying "cooperation," but there is an acceptance of reality. It is accurate to say that if the terrorists succeed in penetrating into southern Lebanon, the United Nations does not want to fight them. It accepts the fact that they have penetrated. It does not want to get into trouble. It does not want its men to get killed, so it does not kill others. From our viewpoint it is unacceptable that terrorists return to southern Lebenon.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: What do we want to happen in Lebanon?

Raful: We want Lebanon to regain its independence and peace, a country from which no hostile forces operate against Israel. Today it may be the terrorists; tomorrow it may be someone else.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Is there a danger of renewal of terrorist activity from Jordan?

Raful: There is a tendency to operate from Jordan. The Jordanians, to the best of our knowledge, are at present trying to prevent the situation from returning to the 1970 situation. Then Jordan suffered very much.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Is the process of sophistication in manpower and equipment increasing with respect to the terrorists?

Raful: There is a tendency to become more sophisticated and to turn into an army. This tendency is mainly felt in Lebanon. There they have larger stretches of land under their control. The tendency is to turn into a more organized army, with communications, a headquarters, organizational frameworks, and arms.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Is this merely a tendency?

Raful: It is in the process of being implemented. They have more artillery than they ever had and I would not be surprised if they also have tanks. We also know that they train pilots.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Some people say that it would have been worthwhile to create here something like the former "Unit 101" [former commando unit which carried out retaliatory operations]. Has the IDF neglected this in the past few years?

Raful: We have things much more sophisticated than the "101." Excuse me, but I am informing you that today we can do whatever we want and go wherever we want. As for sophistication, it is the most sophisticated. We operate the smallest and the greatest.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Then why do you shell terrorist bases from airplanes? Why don't you do something sophisticated?

Raful: Because this is a political, not a military, matter.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Then why don't you say to the Cabinet: "Instead of shelling, let's do something else more sophisticated?"

Raful: The war goes on, even if it is carried out with other ways and means. "A la guerre comme a la guerre," as they say. The booby-trapped cars and infiltration into settlements force us to learn lessons and reach conclusions as well as to pay our debts to those who act against us. We shall not warn. I do not like talk. There is terrorist activity, not against Egypt and not against Syria. Activity against terrorists is carried out with diverse ways and means, at times discreet and at times not.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Some of them were carried out and yet we have not even been informed about them. Should not the public know?

Raful: Yes.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Perhaps the time has come to reveal something.

Raful: There is incessant activity in this field. In my opinion we must maintain a continuity of activity and hold them at bay constantly. It is better to have continuity and constancy, then have something really big once a month. Let the terrorists be always under pressure. They should not know when, where or how we are coming, or what we will be doing.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Will our military situation deteriorate as a result of the evacuation from the Sinai?

Raful: If the evacuation from the Sinai is a peaceful process which will give us the chance to direct means and efforts to other things, then our situation will not become worse.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Will we burn the land behind us in the Sinai after we leave?

Raful: We will evacuate what needs to be evacuated; we will give up what should be given up according to the agreement. We will destroy what cannot be evacuated and cannot be given away or that might reveal secrets. I suppose, according to my understanding of the spirit of things at Camp David, that a "scorched earth" policy will not be carried out.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: Let us move to another subject. In your opinion, can a war break out on the eastern front without Egypt.

Raful: Everything is possible in the Middle East.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: As a result of the IDF withdrawal from the Sinai, will we strengthen our military forces on the eastern front?

Raful: This is a process which is totally connected with the withdrawal from the Sinai. We are strengthening the eastern front irrespective of the peace process.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: And if a war breaks out on the eastern front, can there be such a situation where Egypt will later join it?

Raful: Yes.

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 19 January on page 19 also carries an interview with chief of staff Refa'el Eytan by military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez, in the chief of staff's office, no date indicated, and which is identical to the YEDI'OT AHARONOT interview, with the following exception:

[Refa'el Eytan is calm. He does not act under pressure. And yet it is impossible not to turn to the problems in Lebanon. On UNIFIL he says:

["The United Nations has been trying to do its best, but its capability is limited. Terrorists penetrate into areas under its control and carry out activity there. Since UNIFIL does not want to fail, it wants to enforce its authority in the enclaves. It has difficulty in implementing the mandate. We interpret it differently and the terrorists act wisely. They do not try to limit UNIFIL and do not shoot at it. That is why UNIFIL wants to take over the enclaves, but not Tyre. Thus the impression can be created that the problems emanate from the Christians, but this is a false impression. The problems arise from the terrorists' activities in the areas. The Christian militias create a security belt in southern Lebanon, a buffer between ourselves and the terrorists."

[As for inter-Arab relations, he says briefly: "The cooperation between Iraq, Syria and Jordan is increasing," and hints at the danger to Israel in the "eastern front" [among those three countries]. One of "Raful's" eyes is turned to what is taking place in the IDF in all the fields, the other one, the eye of the scout and a commander, looks toward the border."]

ISRAELI ARABS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR PLO

TA201455 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The National Committee for the Protection of Arab Lands and members of Arab local councils expressed, for the first time today, official support for the PLO.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that although most of the participants are members of the Communist Party, noncommunists also supported the decision. They also denounced what they called crimes perpetrated in the territories; they demanded a halt to the torture of prisoners, and what they described as vengeful collective punishments.

On another matter, they expressed opposition to the appointment of a minister for Arab affairs and to the imposition of national service duty for Arabs. The reasoning they offered for this was that imposing such a duty on people whose rights are trampled under means forcing the Arabs to work for nothing.

The two organizations met in Nazareth today.

BAKHTIAR FREES 162 POLITICAL PRISONERS 20 JAN

LD201754 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] On the order of Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar, 162 political prisoners were freed tonight throughout the country. According to an informed source, at present only eight political prisoners, who are charged with murder, are in prison. Of these prisoners, five are in Tehran and three in the provinces.

AFP: BAKHTIAR SAYS SHAH VIOLATED CONSTITUTION

TA201655 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Paris, Jan 20 (AFP)--Iranian Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar charges that the shah violated Iran's constitution "for years" in an interview to be broadcast on French television tonight.

Asked about the legality of the government he heads, Mr Bakhtiar told his interviewer: "Finally there is a constitution. Either you accept this constitution or you do not. I, personally, accept it.

"I say only that it was violated for years by the shah. Now it is necessary to reestablish, in the democratic sense, what we lost for years."

Mr Bakhtiar said he was sure of the loyalty of the army and did not fear a coup d'etat "as long as there is a legal government." However, if he were killed or forced to resign, the situation could change, he said.

PRIME MINISTER BAKHTIAR ADDRESSES NATION 21 JAN

LD211846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Address to the nation by Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar--recorded]

[Text] Dear Iranian people: I apologize for the fact that your prime minister is bothering you more than moderately, but the situation in our dear country is being subjected to such a threat and irresponsible and adventurist elements are entertaining so many wild dreams that I deemed it necessary to brief everyone on the situation.

As its action and behavior testify, the present government, on the basis of the program it presented to the two houses of the legislature, is fulfilling all its commitments one after another. All political prisoners have been released. In spite of obvious abuses of freedom by a number of newspapers, which had been in the pay of corrupt government for 25 years, these newspapers have been allowed to poison public opinion by publishing lies and inflaming feelings for the sake of more circulation. I will treat what they say about me personally with indifference and contempt. But continuing insults and accusations against the army or other members of the community will not go on without a response. For the last time I ask you: Before printing something, pay attention to its accuracy or inaccuracy.

All the drivel and rumors concerning my resignation and abandoning the sacred constitutional barricade are baseless, as are all the allegations that I might be moving toward an absolute unknown.

The damage and harm done to the country's economy during the past 6 months as a result of strikes and slowdowns is greater than the blow dealt this country's edifice by criminals and thieves over the past 15 years. These disturbances are intended to overthrow the country. These persistent marches and these boring slogans, coupled with intimidation and threats, are contrary to the spirit of democracy and what the people in this land and country want. The two houses of the legislature and the government will operate in accordance with what is envisaged by law. Threatening telephone calls and setting fire to people's homes by opportunist elements and those whose greedy appetite has been encouraged by promises will not undermine the spirit of fortitude and forbearance of the legislators and the members of government.

The Iranian revolution, in order to achieve fruition and to bring about a progressive democracy inspired by the lofty Islamic teachings, needs calm and work. I know that the majority of the people in the country are fed up with these aimless and pointless strikes. I know that all the intellectuals and those who believe in this country's independence and integrity want all these whisperings, fraticidal activities and bullying to end. I am confident that anyone who wittingly encourages these violent and unbridled activities by the youth is the enemy of the realm and the faith. I am confident that the principles of the government of the people by the people is only possible through democracy, and this is something that the Iranian people have been deprived of for long years.

Now that this objective has been achieved, a group of people with a calculated plan and with inspiration from outside our border --and also some elements filled with egotism and rancor--do not want to allow the unity and survival of dear Iran to remain, to enable the people through the inexhaustible power of labor and work, to construct a free, progressive and faithful society in their country.

It is incumbent upon me to convey to you all, dear compatriots, that these distubances, continuing in a stage-managed manner, are diametrically opposed to the principle of the revolution and the primary demands of the Iranian people. Under no circumstances will I vacate the barricade of the constitution; to me, every inch of this country's territory is worth as much as all of it. To safeguard this and my country's oneness and integrity I invoke the words of a poet when he said: Life is a merchandise possessed by all and sundry.

KHUZESTAN GOVERNOR GENERAL RECALLED TO TEHRAN

LD201215 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] On instructions from Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister, Lieutenant General Ja'farian, governor general of Khuzestan, has been recalled to Tehran.

TEHRAN ANNOUNCES RECALL OF MORE DIPLOMATS

LD211100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] It was learned today that, in line with the implementation of the Foreign Ministry constitution, two ambassadors and three consuls general have been recalled to Tehran, as follows:

Ja'far Ra'eb, ambassador to Jidda; Ahmad Ardalan, ambassador to Moscow; Naser Shirzad, consul general in New York; Manuchehr Ardalan, consul general in San Francisco; Ahmad 'Ali Raja'i, consul general in Karachi. The same report says that a number of members of mission staffs in New York and the embassy in Washington have also been recalled to Tehran.

TEHRAN CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH PRIME MINISTER BAKHTIAR

LD212224 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

["Exclusive radio and television interview" with Shahpur Bakhtiar, prime minister of Iran, conducted by 'Abbas Mosallanezhad, correspondent of Tehran radio and television, on January 21; place of interview not specified--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, thank you for participating in this interview. News agencies reported this morning that His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni will come to Tehran this coming Friday. Is this report correct?

[Answer] I have heard as much about it as you have. I have heard nothing specific other than news agency reports.

[Question] Should His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni come to Tehran and form a government, what would your position be as Iranian prime minister?

[Answer] As you have said, I am the prime minister and will have no duty other than continuing to be prime minister.

[Question] Dr Bakhtiar, it is reported that our neighboring countries have embarked on troop movements. In light of the statement by the Imperial Gendarmerie Forces, what have you done about this as Iranian prime minister?

[Answer] Generally, I should explain to you that in every situation when there is a crisis in one country, neighboring countries do engage in some troop movements. Generally, however, I am not worried about a foreign government openly and officially waging an act of aggression against Iran. It should be noted, however, that if some neighboring countries observe an explosion started from within, their greedy impulses will also start boiling over.

[Question] Dr Bakhtiar, what, in your view, would be the impact of the international policies and exerting influence of superpowers upon Iran's future in the present circumstances?

[Answer] What we want is independence and national unity. Superpowers have interests the world over, including in Iran. We will try to accept their reasonable interest provided there is mutual respect. But in no circumstances will we allow them to interfere in or have anything to do with our internal affairs.

[Question] There have been rumors recently concerning attacks by Kurdish insurgents against our country's borders. Could you elucidate the matter?

[Answer] I think this situation has been exaggerated. There have always been troubles in this region and will continue to be so. Tha main point is that the central government should have sufficient strength and power so that it can respond to such attacks, or attacks of greater magnitude, and safeguard Iran's border and territory.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the recent demonstrations in Tehran and provincial cities have involved clashes between religious and other groups. Bearing in mind that you ordered the security forces to keep away from demonstrations, would you continue to pursue the policy of keeping security forces away if these clashes continued?

[Answer] I am confident that certain demonstrators and those who participate in these persistent marches, as I have already indicated, do not all have the same views and objectives. A great number of them, generally, have no aim at all. The theaters are closed and there is widespread unemployment, so this is a type of entertainment for them. It has become a way for them to show off by following this gentleman or that eminent ayatollah. Apart from this group, there are people who are acting through conviction and belief. They are in at least two or three distinct groups. These include those who believe in the great eminent ayatollah, those who have Marxist views and absolutely specific political objectives quite different from, or completely opposite to, others. There is also a group of moderates, as well. So, we will not try to interfere in these matters, but if, God forbid, clashes and disturbances are likely to lead to greater troubles, then of course the security forces would intervene within the limits of dispersing the crowd or separating opposing factions.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, a coup d'etat has become the topic of the day these days. Could you give your views on this?

[Answer] Strikes are also the topic of the day. There are strikes, but a coup, even though it is the topic of the day, does not exist in reality. This is a sort of war of nerves which is engaged in every day. I have no idea where a coup may take place. In Iran, however, there is nothing of the kind whatsoever, as far as I know.

[Question] You mentioned strikes. Because of strikes many productive units have been closed down, resulting in unemployment of some workers and staff. Should these strikes continue we will have a spiralling unemployment trend. What are you planning to do about this?

[Answer] I would like to ask you to ask this question of those who want to engage in such strikes. The strikes, in their first stage, concerned welfare matters, which were resolved under Mr Sharif-Emami's government. The strikes also concerned certain political aspirations which I myself, as you can testify yourself, fulfill every day. Nevertheless, the strikes continue. Now there are two ways of looking at the situation: Either it is a foreign order to bring this country to its knees and spread unemployment, or else it is a situation caused by people who have been used to receiving pay without doing any work. Now that this system has been upset, and I am determined not to pay a penny without work, I think some young people have realized that if they work they may be confident of being paid.

Those who stage these aimless and pointless strikes should be described, without mincing words, as traitors. Treachery is treachery, whether by a liberal or by a reactionary. Betrayal of the country is a betrayal, be it by the left or by the right. Anyone who continues to strike in the circumstances I have described, that is, now that the country's political and welfare demands have been guaranteed, I describe as a traitor.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the military governor general of Khuzestan Province has been recalled to Tehran on your orders. Was this in connection with the incidents in Ahvaz?

[Answer] It certainly is not unrelated.

[Question] Could you elaborate on this further?

[Answer] Reports reaching me from impartial individuals indicated that he had failed in discharging his duties in certain respects. Such failures in the present critical circumstances are enough reason. As you know, we have not had such incidents in other cities--only in Ahvaz and to some extent in the Andimeshk area. I inquired about the matter through impartial individuals who have nothing to do with the military or government establishments. They informed me about certain weak points, and on the basis of this information I made my decision. Now, contrary to those afflicted people who write on the walls: "Bakhtiar has no powers," you could perhaps tell everyone that no prime minister in the past 40 years has had as much power as I do.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, allow me to ask you my final question. In view of the fact that the flow of oil has been stopped and that government dues, such as taxes, are not collected at the moment, what is the position with regard to the government's financial situation and its payment commitments until the end of the year on 20 March 1979?

[Answer] We have made substantial economies. We have stopped extravagant expenditures, luxury purchases and unwarranted purchases of arms. Thus we have reduced government commitments considerably. But I assure you that even if, God forbid, the flow of oil continues as at present until the new Iranian year, we will still pay the salaries of the civil servants and the staffs in the private sector.

[Question] Provided they work for their salaries?

[Answer] Of course, provided they work.

AFP REPORTS DENIAL TWO REGENCY COUNCIL MEMBERS RESIGNED

NC211022 Paris AFP in English 0955 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 (AFP)--Iranian Imperial Court Minister 'Ali Qoli Ardalan today denied that two members of the Regency Council set up by the shah had resigned.

Reliable sources here said earlier today that former Minister Mohammad Varasteh and former Supreme Court President 'Ali Abadi had left the council.

REGENCY COUNCIL MEETS; EIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT

LD211748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Regency Council held a meeting from 1700 to 1900 in Tehran today with the participation of the eight members present. In the course of the meeting, the Regency Council reviewed current developments.

AFP: Tehrani Resigns

TA220815 Paris AFP in English 0814 GMT 22 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Paris, Jan 22 (AFP)--Seyyed Jamaleddin Tehrani, president of the Iranian Regency Council, presented his resignation to Ayatollah Khomeyni here last night, informed sources said today.

They said he presented his resignation through the intermediary of Dr Seyfoddin Nabavi, the ayatollah's personal doctor.

GENERAL QARABAGHI: THERE WILL BE NO ARMY COUP

OW221145 Paris AFP in English 1144 GMT 22 Jan 79 OW

[Text] Tehran, 22 Jan (AFP)--General Karim Abbas Qarabaghi, chief of staff of Iran's Armed Forces, today said there would be no army coup in Iran.

The Iranian Army was "the guardian of the constitution and the government," he told a news conference here. Every act of insubordination in military ranks would be severely punished, he said.

The general denied reports of mutinies at Iranian air force bases but confirmed that "a certain army barracks" had followed a hunger strike. This was over an internal army matter, he said, without elaborating.

The general said he hoped there would be no unfortunate incidents when the Paris-exiled Muslim opposition leader Ayatollah Khomeyni returns here. The army would try to maintain public order, he said.

GOVERNMENT SETS UP BUREAU FOR PUBLIC'S SUGGESTIONS

LD212339 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the government today:

In order to learn about the patriotic Iranian people's reformist views and ideas in the interest of serving the public, the Bureau of Evaluation of National Opinion and Response has been set up at the office of the prime minister. It is hereby announced that the staff members of this bureau are at the disposal of the noble Iranian people all day so that any ideas they may have on improving the country's present situation or any other views on the further progress of affairs may be communicated to his excellency the prime minister most speedily for necessary action. The bureau's telephone numbers are 667066 and 646439 and 554022.

TEHRAN REPORTS MINISTRIES, AGENCIES TO BE REORGANIZED

LD212338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The following government circular was addressed today to all ministries, government agencies and organizations coming under the Civil Employment Act and those exempt from the act:

In view of the fact that in ministries, government agencies and organizations unnecessary and redundant posts have been created without regard to related duties and responsibilities and merely as a means to pay additional salaries, bonuses and fringe benefits to selected individuals or so-called favorites, and the fact that this situation has created discontent and indifference among other honest, hard-working and worthy government employees: Therefore, in order to effect justice and fairness and to eliminate the present shortcomings and dissatisfaction, the government deems itself obliged to embark on a fundamental restructuring and reorganization in all ministries and government agencies and affiliated units and, while eliminating redundant posts, to root out from and to cleanse all government agencies of bureaucrats, negatives, redtape operators, those who create discontent and all the agents of corruption and discrimination.

In order to achieve this it is requested that a plan for the restructuring and reorganization of the ministry or agency concerned be prepared under your [as heard] direct supervision and with the utmost care and honesty by informed and competent experts, impartial and disinterested individuals imbued with rectitude and moral and humanitarian virtues, who themselves have suffered from and been hurt by such practices or any form of discrimination in the past. The plan is to be forwarded to the deputy prime minister not later than the close of business on Saturday, 27 January.

[Signed] Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Mishiri-Yazdi.

INA: TANKER LEAVES PORT WITH ABADAN HEAVY OIL

JN201033 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 20 January--The first oil tanker carrying heavy oil from the Abadan oil refinery left the Iranian port of Mahshahr today. This was announced to the INA correspondent by Seyfoddin Ramzin, the official spokesman of the National Iranian Oil Company [NIOC].

The spokesman said that today's load is part of the quantity allowed for export by the striking oil workers to enable the Abadan oil refinery to increase its production to meet local consumption requirements.

The company's official spokesman said that export has been restricted to this type of oil only. He also said that the operations of exporting crude oil and its by-products are still at a standstill.

The spokesman explained that the agreement with the striking workers was on three conditions: first, permitting the export of heavy oil, second, permitting the export of 2 million barrels only of this type of fuel at present; and third, the impermissibility of exporting this fuel to the Zionist entity or South Africa.

The spokesman said he expects the oil crisis in Iran to be solved in 2 to 3 weeks.

AFP: KEY OPPOSITION DEPUTY SAID TO RESIGN FROM MAJLIS

TA201529 Paris AFP in English 1518 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 20 (AFP)--One of the most popular deputies in the Iranian opposition has resigned, KEYHAN newspaper reported today.

Bani Ahmad announced his decision in Paris where he is trying to contact exiled religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the report said. Mr Ahmad claimed in his resignation letter that parliament had lost its legality in view of yesterday's "immense demonstration of the people against the regime," the paper added.

From his home-in-exile outside Paris, Ayatollah Khomeyni today called on parliamentary deputies to resign, warning that those who did not would be held responsible for whatever happens in Iran.

NEW HEALTH MINISTER ON MINISTRY'S PROBLEMS

LD201348 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] The payment of money owed by the Ministry of Health and Welfare to doctors, hospitals and pharmacies is among the ministry's crash programs. In an interview with Voice of Iran correspondent Abbas Mosallanezhad, Dr Razmara, the new minister of health and welfare, said today: Unfortunately, the Ministry of Health and Welfare is in a severe plight from a financial standpoint. For the past several months, doctors, hospitals and pharmacies have not received what has been owed to them. In the ministry's short-term crash program, an arrangement has been made in order to pay the claims of creditors as soon as possible. By the end of the current [Iranian] year [20 March], these will amount to about 15 billion rials.

The minister of health and welfare also said: Should the services of foreign doctors who are currently working in our country be found to be unnecessary, they will be returned to their countries.

GOVERNMENT TELLS NATION NO WHEAT SHORTAGE EXISTS

LD211904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the government this evening:

(?A few prejudiced individuals) have recently spread a rumor concerning the lack of wheat, and this rumor has caused anxiety to the people. The Iranian nation is hereby informed that a sufficient quantity of wheat has been purchased and imported and, with the help of the Iranian Army, is being speedily unloaded and transported to various parts of the country by truck. Hence, there is no cause for concern, and you may rest assured that this government, which has based its program on propriety and complete honesty before the Iranian people, will, in the event of a state of emergency, itself declare a state of emergency in order to inform the people and seek their assistance. The noble Iranian nation, therefore, is told all this in advance so that it will not pay attention to groundless rumors and so that it can be fully confident of the honesty of the government.

AFP: THREE OFFICERS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN AHVAZ MUTINY

TA201613 Paris AFP in English 1610 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 20 (AFP)--Three Iranian officers were killed and 11 others wounded in an army mutiny in the southern Iranian city of Ahvaz last Wednesday, the evening newspaper ETTELAAT reported here today.

The newspaper said the incident occurred among troops of the Ahvaz 92nd division, whose colonel and some officers had gone personally to the town to tell the troops there not to fire on demonstrators celebrating the departure of the shah from Iran. But some soldiers disobeyed orders and fired on the crowd, causing the officers themselves to fire on the troops, the newspaper said.

PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION REPORTED IN TEHRAN 19 JAN

LD191254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the religious community, the National Front, and political and social parties and associations, mammoth marches took place in Tehran and other Iranian cities to commemorate the 40th day following the martyrdom anniversary of Imam Husayn and struggle of the Iranian nation.

In Tehran, the marches began from several points in the city, and after converging the groups marched along Shah Reza and Eisenhower Avenues right up to Shahyad Square. Throughout the route the marchers, carrying placards and slogans of a religious and national nature, held calm demonstrations. The religious community responsible for holding the march on the 40th day had previously given the necessary instructions to the marchers on the need for preserving order, requesting that they refrain from any action which could cause disorder and riots. The marchers were particularly requested stringently to prevent nonreligious slogans and placards from being brought into their ranks.

At about 1200 the marchers arrived at the huge Shahyad Square, and moments later the resolution of these groups was read by a speaker, following which the crowd together read the call to prayer and held the noon prayers.

The groups' resolution, formulated in 10 articles, first gave the views of the Islamic movement on the monarchy and the imperial regime, and the type of government approved by the movement in articles 1-3 of the resolution; then in article 4 the issue of the movement vis-a-vis the government was expounded; in articles 5-8 of the resolution other views of the participants were announced, part of which you will hear in a speech: [begin recording]

[Unidentified speaker] Religious brothers, please pay attention to the (?points) determined by (?our leader): (?Do not let anyone) attack officers, NCO's, soldiers and their centers. We are for a government of law. We are faithful to Islam. We follow that personage who would not allow the smallest infringement in the teachings of Islam. The Iranian nation will wage the struggle with the law on its side [words indistinct], but let us not do something which would take the matters out of your hands as the nation and let them fall into the hands of a number of subversives. Our army brothers are our brothers and enjoy our respect, and the nation needs them. [loud cheers] The uprising and the struggle of the Iranian nation are of an entirely Islamic nature. [Passage indistinct] and have not been and are not dependent on any foreign agent. Our nation has constantly supported the path of Islamic mission and (?will continue toward this end) its struggle and warns the free and freedom-seeking groups against repression and division. [cheers]

Religious brothers, (?there are people) who wish to disrupt order. Beware lest subversive elements should influence you [words indistinct] otherwise our movement will be defeated. [passage indistinct] We desire cordial relations with all nations on condition that their governments do not undermine the struggle of our heroic nation. [cheers] [Words indistinct] the movement will deal an irreparable blow at Iran's political and economic relations with them. We rely on all nations except the Israelis, South Africa and their supporters [words indistinct].

Without being dependent on either the East or the West we (?cooperate with) and have a program of friendship and mutual undertaking with anybody or any government which agrees with our movement and the demands of the nation. [passage indistinct] There are groups which wish to misuse the (?circumstances). Do not allow them to do so. Let this huge gathering, together with its single slogan, be reported to the world. [sentence indistinct] Do not attack government centers. [sentence indistinct] Know that anyone who (?acts otherwise) is divorced from the Muslim Iranian nation. [loud cheers--end recording]

In articles 9 and 10 the resolution explains the views of the participants in the National Consultative Assembly and the Regency Council, and at the end of the resolution the speaker called on the rally to observe order and calm.

Then the rally, together with a muezzin, read the call to prayer, and after holding the noon prayers the people gradually dispersed.

Demonstrations in Other Cities

LD191318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] According to correspondents' dispatches from various cities today, thousands of people from the cities of Zanjan and Mianeh and the surrounding villages held peaceful demonstrations. At this moment the demonstratons are continuing their calm demonstrations in Tehran's Zanjan and Mianeh Avenues, carrying slogans of support for His Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni.

In Reza'iyeh, too, a large group held a quiet march despite falling snow, and a similar march was held in Birjand after a speech by one of the religious leaders. Marches were also held in the cities of Khoy, Maragheh, Shahpur, Mahabad and Bandar-e Abbas.

Our correspondent reports from Yazd that demonstrations also took place in Yazd, Ardekan and Taft, all of which were quiet.

Our correspondent's dispatch from Kerman says that this morning a huge group of people from various levels of society held a meeting in Imam Mosque where they heard speeches by a number of people, held a march in the streets, and at a second rally in the city's sports stadium listened to more speeches.

In Ahvaz, too, a huge group of citizens first met in Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq Mosque and, after a demonstration march, met in the surrounding streets and listened to speeches by a number of people. During the speeches it was said that a delegation sent by His Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni would soon arrive in the city to investigate the state of public supplies and the strikes.

Peaceful demonstrations were also held in Dezful.

A huge group of people from Zahedan, chanting slogans, held a march in the city's avenues this morning and clashed with another group chanting slogans against them. Police and security forces were forced to use tear gas to disperse the demonstrators. The group then met in Zahedan's Great Mosque and performed prayers.

TEHRAN RELIGIOUS LEADER CALLS FOR CALM, ORDER

LD191304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent's report, his great eminence the very learned Yahya Nuri, in a speech addressed to the meetings held in Zhaleh Avenue and Ferdowsi Square in Tehran, emphasized the need to maintain order and calm, and for increased vigilance in order not to be diverted from the lofty goals of this movement. He affirmed the need for piety, love of justice and benevolence toward all, and for attention to the living conditions of the needy in the current exceptional circumstances. He also pointed to refraining from committing acts of violence or personal retribution.

SHARI'AT-MADARI APPEALS TO CUSTOMS WORKERS FOR SUPPLIES

LD201224 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Hajj Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, addressed to customs workers and staff:

In his almighty name, esteemed workers and staff of customs houses in Iran: As is repeatedly reported from various cities in the country, large quantities of food and basic public needs are on the verge of perishing in the ports and customs houses, and in most places a shortage of foodstuffs for the people's consumption, as well as for that of poultry and cattle, is very definitely being felt. Therefore, all Muslims should endeavor to remedy such shortages and should not allow a kind of famine and crisis situation to come about, for these would deal a blow to the Islamic movement of the Muslim Iranian people. It is therefore necessary to speedily release foodstuffs and public victuals which are urgently needed to protect people's lives, as well as the lives of cattle and poultry, in order that these can be utilized. All honest and zealous customs staff and workers should display the utmost effort and seriousness in releasing these supplies. They should rest assured that their excellent work will please almighty God and will be greatly appreciated by everyone. I beseech God to afford Muslims all the opportunities for success.

[Signed] Sayyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, 19 January 1979.

CLASHES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS, OPPOSITION 20 JAN

LD201226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A clash took place yesterday afternoon between pro- and antigovernment factions following the demonstrations in Najafabad and the holding of prayers in 25th Shahrivar Square in the town of Yazdanshahr, 3 kilometers from Najafabad, and as a result a number of people were wounded. Several of the wounded were immediately taken to the Red Lion and Sun Hospital in Najafabad, eight of whom unfortunately died. A number of wounded people were also taken to the Sorayya Hospital in Esfahan, three of whom similarly lost their lives. According to eyewitness accounts, another person was also killed at the site of the clash. The report indicates that during the clash some 50 were wounded who, except for 8 people, are in the Red Lion and Sun Hospital in Najafabad. The rest have been discharged from the hospital.

A clash also took place in Zahedan yesterday between pro- and antigovernment people which was ended by police intervention and the use of tear gas.

A clash also took place in Andimeshk last night between pro- and antigovernment people.

According to a dispatch from our correspondent in Ahvaz, another clash took place this morning between anti- and progovernment people, but so far we have not received any reports on this clash.

ZANJAN BANK ROBBED OF ALL ITS HOLDINGS

LD201202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] In an armed attack on the National Bank of Iran in Zanjan, all the money in the bank and all the money carried by customers in the bank at the time was taken. The attack occurred at 0830 this morning when four robbers, armed with machineguns and sidearms, attacked the National Bank of Iran's branch at Zanjan's Pahlavi crossroads. According to the branch manager, the money in the bank amounted to 13.85 million rials. The armed robbers violently took money being carried by some 50 customers who were in the bank and, after cutting the bank's telephone wires, they locked the bank with a padlock and chain and then fled.

The incident is already under investigation by the competent authorities.

PARIS REPORTS TROOP MOVEMENTS IN BORDER AREAS

LD201326 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Iran--Troop movements have reportedly been observed in border areas of the country, particularly on those with Afghanistan. According to certain sources, several hundred Afghans have reportedly entered Iran in order to loot. This is all that is known at the moment.

As for the discussions which reportedly took place in Tehran this morning between representatives of Ayatollah Khomeyni, the Bakhtiar government, and army officials, a close associate of the religious leader, Mr Qotbzadeh, categorically denied these reports in Paris this morning. In his view, no compromise is possible. The Bakhtiar government is illegal and the only solution open to him is to resign. He said the following to our reporter, (?Alain Chalvron), a short while ago. [begin recording] [Qotbzadeh] No negotiations are going on and there will be no compromise. The issue is simple and the ayatollah's position has already been clearly stated. Bakhtiar must go and (?resign) completely--that is all. (?Never is there) any member of the opposition that is not (?ours), but... [sentence as heard, reporter interrupts]

[Chalvron] But formally? Officially?

[Answer] Officially? Absolutely (?not).

[Question] But supposing negotiations could take place in any case. Would they take place here or in Tehran?

[Answer] They will not take place anywhere. [end recording]

KHOMEYNI SPOKESMAN CLAIMS 2,800 AIRMEN ARRESTED

LD201538 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Ayatollah Khomeyni's spokesman says that reports received from Iran indicate that 2,800 officers and men in the air force who oppose the shah and who are in favor of setting up an Islamic republic are said to have been arrested at two bases. Some of them are even reported to have been tried by a military court and executed.

The same spokesman, apparently referring to remarks made at the beginning of the week, stated that participation by the National Front, the main secular opposition party, in a future Iranian government was now envisaged.

In France, several people claiming to belong to a defense committee for the shah of Iran have been telephoning the Shi'ite leaders for the last 48 hours and making death threats against the ayatollah. The gendarmerie force guarding the ayatollah's house in Neauphle-le-Chateau has been strengthened.

MOURNING DECLARED FOLLOWING KHOY CLERGYMAN'S DEATH

LD201929 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Public mourning was declared today in Khoy and Shahput following the death of His Reverence Mohammad Hasan So'udi, a prominent Khoy clergyman, at the hands of a group of people from the village of Adlabad.

AFP: KHOMEYNI FOLLOWERS REPORTEDLY CONTROL QOM

TA201749 Paris AFP in English 1748 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[By Patrick Meney]

[Excerpts] Qom, Iran, Jan 20 (AFP)--This holy city has been under total Islamic rule since yesterday.

Until Thursday, the military were in full control of the city, keeping a close watch even on visitors of Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, who now seems to be the new master in town.

But yesterday, 500,000 people defied martial law to demand an "Islamic republic" as advocated by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the exiled spiritual leader of Iran's anti-shah opposition. Portraits of Ayatollah Khomeyni, who left Qom for exile in 1963, are seen everywhere, all over buildings, on knocked-down statues of the shah, as well as in hotel halls, banks and post offices where they have replaced photos of the shah.

In theory, the city is under martial law and gatherings of more than three people are banned. Yet troops and tanks have been virtually nowhere to be seen since yesterday and traffic is being directed by "Islamic republic's police". Members of this police force--civilians wearing laminated badges painted by religious authorities--are maintaining order at gas stations where lines extend for miles.

When asked to define the "Islamic republic," a woman replied "We don't really know. During the past 25 years of dictatorship, it was forbidden to speak about it. But we trust our religious leaders because they represent God on earth."

Meanwhile, all shops have been closed for the past 2 days to "protest against the government (of Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar)."

In this Islamic euphoria, it was the local religious chief, Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, who struck a cautious note. "The shah has not yet gone. He merely left the country. We must fight on for the establishment of the Islamic republic," he said.

AFP: 50 KILLED IN 20 JAN CLASHES NORTH OF TEHRAN

TA211622 Paris AFP in English 1618 GMT 21 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 (AFP)--Fifty persons are reported to have been killed in clashes between peasants and townspeople yesterday in Mshagin Shamr, 500 km (310 miles) north of Tehran, the daily ETTELAAT reported here today, citing eyewitnesses.

Other similar incidents between groups of varying religious or political tendencies have been reported from provincial cities, but the breakdown of communications in Iran because of strikes made the reports difficult to check.

AFP REPORTS CLASHES IN TWO EASTERN TOWNS 21 JAN

NC210702 Paris AFP in English 0631 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 (AFP)--At least ten people were killed and scores more injured in clashes between supporters and opponents of the shah in two eastern [words indistinct], hospital sources said today.

The fighting broke out in Shiryan, a town of 150,000 people (?720) kms (450 miles) east of the capital, and at Quchan (200,000 inhabitants) 800 kms (500 miles) east of here. Seven people were [words indistinct].

Reports reaching here said clashes had broken out afresh in the towns today.

AFP REPORTS MARXIST DEMONSTRATION IN TEHRAN

TA211451 Paris AFP in English 1445 GMT 21 Jan 79 TA

[By Patrick Meney]

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 (AFP)--The Iranian Marxist left appeared openly for the first time today in the streets of the capital as 10,000 marchers cried, "Neither for God nor against God."

Members of various persecuted leftist movements declared that they had "not emerged from the dictatorship of the shah to fall into an Islamic dictatorship."

Residents of Tehran appeared barely able to believe their eyes as they watched unveiled women wearing trousers and shirts march side by side with men, some holding men's hands. A young Shi'ite muslim preacher, or mullah, threw his hands in the air as the marchers approached and shouted, "It's the communists."

The demonstrators, whose colorful parade seemed in deliberate contrast to the marches of black-robed religious protesters of recent weeks, crossed the city chanting, "Workers and peasants, let us unite. Mulsim brothers, we fought side by side for the departure of the tyrant. Let us not separate now."

Communist and other Marxist-oriented groups had never before staged their own demonstrations in Iran.

The marchers were preceded by religious leaders waving posters reading, "Watch out. The demonstration that follows is not Islamic. Do not join it."

The leftists [were] surrounded by their own highly structured corps of security guards. "Muslims, do not launch an inquisition," the leftists demanded, explaining that the purpose of their march was to protest against "acts of intolerance by religious leaders." One leftist student said, "Religious officials forbid us from expressing ourselves. They tear down our posters. They expel us with brute force from their parades."

That did not keep the marchers from shouting the name of exiled religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni but they were interrupted by a mullah who told them, "Do not chant the name of Khomeyni. You do not have the right. You want to use it to draw crowds."

After only a few minor scuffles, marchers reached the university.

Observers said the demonstration reflected the split between religious and Marxist elements in Iran that has become increasingly evident since the departure of the shah.

The clandestine Marxist organization of the fedayeen of the people yesterday sent an open letter to Ayatollah Khomeyni, declaring, "Your tendency to monopolize the revolution frightens us. Islam cannot impose on us a one-party system."

Its leaders, like those of other leftist movements, complained of acts of religious intolerance toward "anything that is not Islamic."

Tehran Report

LD212038 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A 10,000-strong group of people, mostly young people, today staged a long march in Tehran streets. They marched 15 km from southern parts of the city to the Aryamehr Industrial University. At the outset of the march and along the procession there were clashes between these demonstrators and other groups. While denouncing any form of dictatorship, the demonstrators shouted slogans about Islamic solidarity and called on farmers and workers to unite. Opposition groups, however, stating that these demonstrators were not associated with religious groups, initially tried to prevent the march. After a few minor clashes, which ended without intervention by security forces, the marchers eventually reached the Aryamehr Industrial University and dispersed after listening to a number of speeches. The marchers demanded freedom of expression for all political groups and described as unacceptable any form of dictatorship or acts of violence.

AFP: KHOMEYNI REPRESENTATIVES TALK WITH GOVERNMENT, ARMY

NC200816 Paris AFP in English 0800 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, Jan 20 (AFP)--Talks are beingheld here between representatives of exiled Shi'ite Muslim leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, Premier Shapur Bakhtiar's new government and the Iranian Army, an informed source close to the government said.

The talks were an attempt to find a minimum political platform acceptable to all the parties in the Iranian crisis, the source said.

The talks had been rumored but not confirmed yesterday.

Khomeyni Aide Denial

NC201130 Paris AFP in English 1119 GMT 20 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Paris, Jan 20 (AFP)--Reports from Iran that talks are taking place between representatives of exiled Shi'ite Muslim leader Ayatollah Khomeyni and Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar's new government were denied here today by one of the exiled leader's close aides. The aide, Qotbzadeh, ruled out all possibility of such contacts and said that no compromise with the Iranian Government was possible.

Mr Bakhtiar's government was illegal, he said, and the only solution was for it to resign.

Mr Qotbzadeh, speaking at the ayatollah's exile home at Neauphle-le-Chateau near here, also denied that contacts had been made with Iranian Armed Forces leaders. He said no date had been fixed for Ayatollah Khomeyni's return to Iran but his followers hoped it would be soon. He dismissed out of hand reports from Tehran of dissension among the ayatollah's followers.

AFP: KHOMEYNI ISSUES MESSAGE TO IRANIAN PEOPLE

TA201443 Paris AFP in English 1425 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Paris, Jan 20 (AFP)--Exiled religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni today said he would return to Iran "very soon".

In a message to the Iranian people he urged cooperation with the army to bring back calm to the trouble-torn country, and denounced as "traitors" those who provoked rioting.

"The duty of the people is to repair the destruction committed by the monarchic regime," he said in the message, which was released to the press from the ayatollah's base at Neauphle-le-Chateau on the Paris outskirts.

The 78-year-old Moslem leader called on parliamentary deputies to resign, warning that those who did not would be held responsible for whatever happens in Iran. His message also demanded the resignation of the "illegal" Regency Council set up by the shah.

KHOMEYNI SCORES CARTER, ISRAEL IN BEIRUT DAILY INTERVIEW

TA201514 Paris AFP in English 1512 GMT 20 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Beirut, Jan 20 (AFP)--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the exiled Iranian religious leader, has called U.S. President Jimmy Carter "the vilest man on earth," according to an interview published here today. "President Carter ought to know that for the Iranian people he is the vilest man on earth because of the crimes and injustices he has committed toward them," his aides quoted the ayatollah as saying in the interview printed in the Lebanese leftist newspaper AS-SAFIR.

The time of privileges enjoyed by foreigners in Iran is "over forever," the ayatollah reportedly said. "Americans, no matter what category they belonged to--experts, military men, technicians or simple domestics--had the advantage of legal immunity. They could not be prosecuted for any crime committed on Iranian territory. If a maid or a cook killed or publicly humiliated an important patriotic figure for whom they worked,they could not be prosecuted by police or judicial authorities," he continued, according to the interview.

The ayatollah's aides said the venerable Shi'ite Muslim leader did not rule out the possibility that the U.S. might commit "the stupidity of organizing a military coup in Iran."

"Washington must know that the consequences of such an action would be much more disastrous for it than for us," he reportedly added.

Ayatollah Khomeyni reportedly reproached the shah of Iran specifically for having shown "favoritisms toward religious minorities in Iran to the detriment of Muslims" and charged that "agents of the Israelis held very numerous key positions" in the government under the shah. "They controlled the economy, drew up the government's programs, trained the army and worked in agriculture and our state sent people on study missions to Israel," He was quoted in the interview as having said. The shah's agrarian reform program had "destroyed the Iranian economy and the foundations of society," benefiting only "American and Israeli trade in Iran," according to the ayatollah.

Discussing the status of women in the Muslim world, the ayatollah affirmed that they "should have the same rights as men."

"Islam affirms the equality of man and woman. It grants them both the right to vote and be elected, the right to have education and work as well as to exercise all economic functions," he said.

Asked whether the wearing of the veil would be obligatory for women in Iran under an Islamic republic, the ayatollah said, "The Muslim woman has chosen to wear the veil because of her Islamic education. In the future, women will be free to decide on this matter. We will ban only indecent dress."

AFP: KHOMEINI TO RETURN TO IRAN 26 JANUARY

NC210816 Paris AFP in English 0809 GMT 21 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 (AFP)--Iranian Shi'ite Muslim leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni will fly home to Iran by Air France jet next Friday, ending 16 years of political exile, highly reliable sources here said today.

The ayatollah's aircraft would land in Tehran shortly before noon (0830 GMT). More than 200 journalists would make the journey with him, the sources said. He would make a speech at the large Behesht Zahra cemetery south of the capital where religious demonstrations against the shah have taken place during recent months, they added.

The ayatollah would stay a few days in Tehran before returning to the holy city of Qom where he lived before going into exile in 1963, the sources said.

KHOMEYNI PLANS TO RETURN FROM PARIS REPORTEDLY HIT SNAGS

OW221125 Paris AFP in English 1050 GMT 22 Jan 79 OW

[Text] Tehran, 22 Jan (AFP)--Plans for the Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Khomeyni to return home later this week aboard a special Iranian Airlines Boeing were running into snags today, according to airport sources here. The sources said the negotiations between striking pilots of the Iranian air line and directors of the company aimed at organising the flight had been broken off following Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar's refusal to authorise the flight.

The pilots had been planning to fly a test flight in a Boeing 707 from Tehran to Paris and to begin preparations for the religious leader's return.

AFP: KHOMEYNI URGES UNITY, PUTTING SHAH ON TRIAL

TA211809 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 21 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Paris, Jan 21 (AFP)--Exiled Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni charged today that the shah of Iran had called on the Iranian Army to stage a coup d'etat as he flew from Tehran to Egypt last week. The shah also ordered Iranian Air Force bombers to attack and raze the city of Abadan but the soldiers refused to carry out the order, the ayatollah said at his suburban retreat near here.

In an hour-long speech in the presence of several hundred Iranians, the ayatollah said "The Iranian revolution has only just started." He called on all Iranians, regardless of ideology and political party, to unite to reconstruct the country which he said had been "ruined" by the monarchy. Iranians must unite in a single aim and fight, which was for God, he said. Any struggle for a cause not devoted to God was doomed to failure, he added.

The Iranian people has succeeded in overthrowing the superpowers in Iran and the system of the shah, he said, adding it must now take its future in hand.

The ayatollah bitterly attacked the shah for his "betrayals" and "crimes." He would have to be brought to trial for these, the ayatollah said, "but he will only have one life to pay the penalty for them," he added.

Today saw the largest number of Iranian "pilgrims" gather at Neauphle-le-Chateau, west of Paris, since the ayatollah arrived. Throughout the morning cars and coaches, mostly with West German registration plates, unloaded groups of Iranians. The garden housing the tent which forms a makeshift mosque was packed out when the daily prayer session began at 1300 and crowds spilled onto the road.

After the prayers, the ayatollah's speech was broadcast by loudspeakers. His audience listened in silence, except when references to the shah provoked a burst of laughter.

A change of atmosphere at the ayatollah's residence had been marked during the morning. The religious leader's entourage displayed great optimism regarding the future. One close aide, while recognizing there were risks attached to Ayatollah Khomeyni's return to Iran, said "The army will not dare oppose" it.

When questioned, the ayatollah was evasive concerning the date of his departure for Iran.